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A FARMER'S KITCHEN OF OLD TIMES IN NEW ENGLAND.

A PICTURE of one of these scenes of comfort has lately fallen under my observation. What can be more cheerful and pleasant than the view of a farmer's kitchen, taken during the evening meal of a cool autumn day. It is a picture of the calm happiness of rural life.

The kitchen of the old farm house of New England is not the scullery, or mere cooking place of some modern houses—a dirty hole or comfortless out room, or sort of human bake oven where the cook is almost as much cooked as the food. No, it is a room perhaps 24 feet long and 16 wide, well lighted, warm, neat, and every way comfortable. Upon one side, there is a fireplace large enough to roast a whole ox, in which a great fire of logs sends up a cheerful blaze, lighting up the whole room so its brightness might be seen through the great uncurtained windows like a beacon light to the traveller as he comes down the slope of yonder hill two miles away, and makes him involuntarily thank God in anticipation, for the good things spread out upon the great table standing between the window and the fire.

Let us take note of this old-fashioned meal. At the head of the table sits a matron of some 60 summers—though in appearance there is nothing of the winter of old age about her—her dress is a gown of homespun worsted, well fortified with flannels from the same manufactory, that bid defiance to the autumn winds of a rigorous climate. She wears a cap on the head, and shoes, and stockings upon the feet that were made in pursuance of the best medical recipe ever written—"Keep the head cool and the feet dry and warm"—for the stockings are the product of busy fingers at idle moments with many housewives, and the shoes of stout leather, were made for service, and the cap is a mere ornament—a snow wreath among raven locks—and her face is the indication of health and happiness. Upon her right hand, sits the farmer, dressed in a butternut-colored coat, blue pants, buff vest, white linen shirt—every article homemade—stout boots and black silk cravat—for he has been to town, and this is his holiday suit. Below him sits Jedediah, Marvin, Abram, and Solomon, all *economical names*, for they can be shortened in common use to Jed, Marv, Ab, and Sol. Two of these wear the check-woollen winter frock of New-England farmers—the others are in round jackets—they are school boys. Upon the left, sits Mary, Adeline, and Meheta-bel, pictures of rural beauty and health. The

eldest is "drest up;" she has been to town with father; she has a gown of "boughten stuff," around her neck is a boa of colored lamb's wool, knit by her own hands, fastened in the throat with grandmother's silver broach. The other two are in check woollen, spun, wove, colored, and made up under the same roof. Further down the table are three athletic young men, day laborers upon the farm—sons of neighboring farmers—one of whom is eyeing the charms of the sweet face of Mary with an expression easily read by a good physiognomist. The group is completed by the schoolmaster, a young man with a glowing eye which speaks of an intellect that will tell upon the world some day with as much force as though he had not been obliged to obtain his education by summer labor and winter teaching. He is one of New England's rising sons. The meal is for men who toil. At one end of the table, stands a pot of ample dimensions smoking from the great oven; flanking the fireplace, of that most excellent of New-England cookeries,

"A dish of baked beans,"

crowned with a great square piece of salt fat pork, crisped and rich. Lower down, a broad pewter platter holds the remains of the "boiled victuals" that formed the dinner—beef, pork, potatoes, cabbage, beets, and turnips—a pile that might rival a small hay cock in size and shape—a plate of rye and Indian bread, cold, and another made of rye flour are untouched; for a great loaf just drawn from the oven, nicely browned and hot, is offered in great broken pieces to tempt the appetite to one of the richest repasts ever given to an epicure. By the side of the old lady, stands a black earthen tea pot, the contents of which are freely offered, but only accepted by two of them, as the rich new milk or hearty old cider is preferred as a beverage, morning, noon, and night, by those old-fashioned hearty laborers. We must not forget the never-failing accompaniment of the evening meal at this season of the year in New England, for 'tis New England's proudest dish, the golden pumpkin sweetest pie.

God being thanked for his great bounties after the close of this happy meal, all draw into a circle around the great fireplace. Father is finishing off an axe helve, Jed is mending a pair of boots, and one of the hired men upon the other side of the same bench is repairing a wagon harness—both use the same tools. The other two are employed, one shelling corn and the other helping Mary peel pumpkins, which are

cut in slices and hung upon poles overhead. This is Mary's accepted lover. Happy hearts and blessed industry. Marv, Ab, and Sol are engaged with the school master around the big table, lighted by a home-made candle; they are studying geography, writing, and arithmetic—fitting themselves for future statesmen. Mother is making a new coat for one of the boys, Ada is ironing at a side table, and Hitty is washing the supper dishes at another. There are two other members of this happy family group—the cat occupies the top of the blue-dye tub, which stands in one corner of the fireplace, and Old Bose sleeps quietly under the table. Directly, and before any sound is audible to human ear, he gets up, walks out into the long entry and gives a loud sharp bark at the outside door and stands waiting the approaching step. Soon satisfied that the new comer is a friend, he retires again to his repose, and three or four boys that look as though they might be brothers to those already described, so much are they dressed alike, enter and draw around the table with the others and the schoolmaster. These are from a neighboring farm, sons of a widow, who have till now been so much engaged with the labors of the farm, they have been unable to attend the school in the day time, but are determined to loose none of the evening opportunities to keep along with their class. These will make honest, intelligent, industrious farmers. The old folks welcome them heartily, and the young ones are all rejoiced at their arrival. The old lady inquires why in the world their mother did not come along; and Mary, the kind-hearted Mary, is so sorry to hear that it is because Sarah is not so well, and mother is very busy getting their new clothes done so they can go to school, as soon as they finish picking apples. "John," says she, "let us hurry and get through our 'stent' and we will go over to the widow's and while I help her with her sewing, you shall read for the amusement of poor Sarah, for an hour or two." "If that is the case" says father, laying down his axe handle, "my good children, you shall go now. I will finish your work." "And Mary, my dear girl, don't go empty handed," says mother, "you know from experience how sweet little delicacies brought by friendly hands to the side of a sick bed, are to the poor invalid." "Hitty, my dear, if you have done your dishes, you must get your cards and make a few rolls, for I am quite out of grey yarn, and we must have some more stockings in the work." "Old man, don't cut that pumpkin too thick." "Ada, daughter, get a plate of doughnuts and

some of those nice fall pippins and set on the table, I guess these boys can eat a few while they are cyphering. I do wonder if you have got light enough." "Sol, get another candle, I am sure such industrious boys ought to have all the light they want."

Thus, my readers, I have given you a slight outline of a farmer's home, such as it used to be, such as it might be, such as it should be always, and such as I am proud to say many an American farmer can boast of even in these degenerate days of "boughten-stuff gowns" and lack-a-daisical lounging of farmer's girls, who are miserable and tired of nothing to do. How do you like the picture? If well, imitate it. It is a happiness easily acquired.

SOLON ROBINSON.

PORK—BACON—HAM—No. 7.

THE difference between hogs that have been well and ill fed consists mainly in the circumstance that the well-fed hogs have their cellular tissue firmly knit together, enveloping firm and well-filled cells of fat. Indifferently-fed hogs have the muscular or lean parts loose and flabby, the cellular tissue and enveloped fat is also loose, and sinks easily on pressure by the finger. The tissues, instead of being firm and elastic, and of a white color, will be found soft, non-elastic, and of an opalescent color, similar to that of ordinarily-formed calve's-foot jelly prior to being clarified for table. The fat participates in this color in consequence of the tissues being soft and large, though containing more moisture than those of well-fed hogs, which also accounts for the deficiency of elasticity; the cells are imperfectly filled with fat.

From the preceding details, it will be apparent that a much greater quantity of moisture, or brine, may be anticipated in salting an ill-fed over that which will issue from a well-fed hog; and in practice, such is found to be the case; the moisture withdrawn is replaced on drying by crystals of salt filling up the vacant interstices, which, as these will always be much more numerous in lean than fat hogs, will cause the bacon on drying to be disagreeably salt. The far-famed Westphalian hams have to be steeped prior to cooking, in consequence of this property; well-fed Westphalian hams, a *rara avis*, do not require steeping prior to cooking. It is evident from the property here described that any mode of procedure which will prevent an undue flow of the sapid fluids which exist in the pork, is desirable if unattended with more than commensurate disadvantages. This can be done by applying in the first instance, a

sprinkling of saltpetre. Should the atmosphere, however, be very free from humidity, it may be necessary to use a little common salt, which, from its more deliquescent property, has a tendency to become liquid, (brine,) by the absorption of water from the air, and the fluids in the meat thus accelerate the operation of the saltpetre. This being done, it is to be rubbed, &c., with salt in the usual manner.

The action of the saltpetre when applied as described, is to combine with the water of the fibres and tissues of the meat, thus causing them to contract, rendering the meat less vesicular, or porous, and consequently will not retain so much salt from the brine on drying. The disadvantages are that the fibres of the meat are rendered somewhat hard. In a general way, and under ordinary circumstances of heat and humidity of the atmosphere, it is best to apply a mixture of salt and saltpetre at first. When well-fed hogs are to be cured, if the atmosphere is very dry, salt alone should be applied at first; then saltpetre alone sprinkled over the meat, the brine being afterwards well rubbed in and thrown over the meat; a sufficient quantity of salt to be applied subsequently. In very moist or bad-curing weather, saltpetre should be applied alone at first, unless there is a fear that the meat will decay, in which case salt must be applied. From this cause, it is almost impossible to cure pork in hot weather other than by using salt and saltpetre in combination. These are general rules, the result of experience, which however may be greatly modified by circumstances. Notwithstanding which, they are valuable as rules, and if carefully attended to, will be found on trial worthy of notice.

A great deal is stated by writers on the necessity of well rubbing in the salt, &c.; as this cannot be performed by the bare hand on the large scale, some curers furnish their workmen with brushes furnished with a strap nailed across the top for the hand to go through; with these, the outer skin of the bacon is well rubbed. I am not inclined to put a very high value on the act of rubbing, in itself; in doing so, however, the operator necessarily more fairly distributes the salt, &c., and the whole of the skin gets softened; for nothing causes pork to take the salt so well as the whole of the skin being made soft, and in the ordinary mode of placing side upon side there always exist patches that remain hard. Rubbing, continual shifting, and turning the sides almost entirely remedy this defect. For curing pork, a dry room with a trough formed of slate passing along each side

and end of the room, and not more than twelve inches deep, is the best; it may, however, be made of stone, wood, or wood lined with lead. Slate and wood lined with lead will be found the best, the former to be preferred. Wood alone is the worst material that can be used.

The sides being all prepared as previously described, salt and saltpetre, alone or mixed, are to be sprinkled over each, and then laid on each other until eight, ten, or a dozen sides are heaped together, the number varying according to the thickness of the sides; half a dozen will, however, be found the most convenient number. In the course of 24 hours or a couple of days, according as the salt is converted into brine, the sides are removed, rubbed, and replaced in an inverse order, the topmost being this time placed at the bottom. A little fresh salt is sprinkled between each course, and the brine thrown over the whole. In very damp weather, the brining should be omitted; if so, the sides should be well washed and rubbed in the brine previously to repacking. In favorable weather for curing, once turning and replacing will be found sufficient, and will not occupy more than a week. In packing, the skin or rind side, is invariably placed underneath. If needed, this packing, rubbing, and salting are repeated. When completed, the sides are taken down, wiped dry, and laid on rough canvass cloth, the first side with the skin underneath. Bay salt is now copiously strewn over it; the next side is laid with the ribs lowermost, and the skin uppermost; another side is then laid on this, with the skin lowermost; another sprinkling of salt, on which is laid a side with the ribs lowermost; the canvass wrapper is now drawn over all, and corded. This is the mode the green bacon is sent to the metropolitan market from Ireland, it being found that, if smoked and perfectly dried in Ireland, it does not preserve so well as when forwarded "green," and then stored in the vaults of the various London wharves, from which it is drawn in order to be smoked as may be required for consumption. The west-of-England bacon is sent to London, ready dried, by land carriage; it is only by sea carriage that bacon is obnoxious to damage when dried and smoked ready for consumption.

In curing hams, a trough being provided as described, they should be first rubbed with a mixture of salt and saltpetre, then laid with the shank end lowest at an angle of 45 degrees, and so on with every row; at the second or third day, they should be well rubbed with the brine and salt, set up as before with a little

fresh salt and saltpetre; in two days more they should be again rubbed, and packed flat and as close as possible, the thick part of one row, against the shank of the next row, by which means, the whole will be nearly covered with their own pickle. In a week or ten days, they will be cured and ready for drying, which should be done by taking them out of the pickle, setting them upright with the shank downwards, and a little dry salt thrown over the thick end. After being thus left for a week longer, they will be ready for hanging up in the drying house, which is in fact a slow stove.

Bacon and hams are smoked by being first damped, and then thrown amongst some dry bran, which adheres to the meat, and prevents it being disfigured by the soot; they are then hung up in a flagged room, with a channel running down the centre, towards which the floor inclines on each side. Brasiers filled with sawdust are now lighted, the room is closed and left. When the fires are extinguished, and the bacon is supposed to have absorbed as much smoke as it can, the place is again entered, the bacon and hams taken down, the bran, with its attached soot, is brushed off, the bacon is now ready for market, as seen at the retailers. The fat which has dripped from the bacon in smoking is collected from the receptacle at the end of the gutter, the dirt and ashes swept out, when the place is again ready for another lot. The fine flavor of Westphalian hams is stated to be due to the circumstance of the smoking rooms being made so high that the smoke is cold when it arrives at the hams. This may be the case in part. I rather attribute their flavor to arise from the fact of the pigs being of a small thin breed, and not killed until they are at least two years old. To have a ham in perfection, the hog ought to be three years old when killed; to feed such would not pay the farmer. In salting pork for bacon, $1\frac{1}{2}$ pounds of salt is sufficient to salt 14 pounds of meat, or 200 pounds would require 24 pounds of salt; and with great care and attention three fourths of an ounce of saltpetre is sufficient for 14 pounds of meat, or 1 pound for 280 pounds of meat. It is a safe practice to use one ounce of saltpetre to 14 pounds of pork. These quantities are adapted to private use; large curers use more of both articles.—*Jour. Royal Ag. Soc.*

PER-CENTAGE OF ASH IN WHEAT.—It is a curious fact that the larger the crop of wheat, the smaller, in general, is the per-centage of ash in the grain.

IMPORTATION OF FRENCH MERINO SHEEP.

MR. SOLOMON W. JEWETT, of Vermont, has recently returned from a tour in France, whither he went for the purpose of selecting a choice flock of the large French Merino sheep, bearing such high prices and so much admired in the United States. Mr. J. shipped, all together, in four different vessels, 150 ewes and two bucks. We had the pleasure of examining a part of this importation and found them very large and fine, and exceedingly well woolled. They are partly from the celebrated flock of Mr. Guerins, in the department of Eure et Loire. Mr. Jewett has kindly furnished us with the following brief account of his visit to France, and his importation:—

I spent 30 days in France, examining the different flocks of sheep, visiting the government and model farms, and their state and district exhibitions of live stock, and satisfied myself that there were but a few flocks there of this class of large Merinos, pure descendants from the original Spanish.

Mr. Guerins purchased a buck at Rambouillet, at the government sale in 1850, and says it was the best one sold. He sheared 21 French pounds of wool at 17 months' growth, and in May last, 19 French pounds, at 11 months, unwashed, but of a beautiful quality of wool, equal to $44\frac{1}{2}$ American pounds, at two clips. This flock at Rambouillet was one of the handsomest in France, but not of so large frame as some of the neighboring flocks, which I think is accounted for by the too close in-and-in breeding for many generations; still they have attained a great size and perfect symmetry, far superior to any of the American Merinos, in my opinion. The sheep have been under the control of the two governments, France and Spain, for several centuries, and they possess at this time valuable, distinct and peculiar characteristics, not inherited by any other class of fine-woolled sheep. Far superior in size, heft of fleece, which holds its quality, with stout limb, large chest, strong constitution, while theory heretofore has been, that we could not breed fine wool on a heavy-muttoned carcass. These sheep will compete with the best English breeds for mutton, I am satisfied by my own taste, and what I saw on exhibition in France.

I saw high grade Merino wethers fatted for the butchers that would weigh 250 pounds, in lots of 20 or more. They are kept with less trouble and less feed, considering size, than any other animals, as they never roam over the fields like other sheep; they inherit this pecu-

liar trait by the long line of breeding. Constantly led to the pastures by shepherds, they have not been allowed to roam far over the fields for hundreds of years past. The ewe lamb you saw was got by the Rambouillet buck, out of Guerin's flock; and when in France, he was the most noble-looking animal of the species I ever saw; but the 60 days' journey which he and the flock have made, has reduced him and them so as hardly to make a respectable shadow. These ewes, some of them, weighed 200 pounds, in France, and the smallest sheep of the 140 ewes weighed 130 pounds. S. W. JEWETT.

LAW OF OVERHANGING TREES.

Few questions are of more importance to those having farms and gardens, than that raised in the case of *Martin vs. Boyes* and another, tried the other day before Mr. Baron Platt, and reported in the daily papers of last week. We mean the question, "In what cases is a person whose trees project beyond the boundaries of his own property liable to have them lopped, and by whom?"

In the case referred to, it appears, from the opening of the learned counsel, that the plaintiff had a house in the principal street of Beverly, with seven acres of ground attached to it. In front of the house, facing the street, were some very fine elm and chestnut trees, which overhung the wall bounding the plaintiff's grounds, and extended over the street, forming a great ornament to the town, shading and protecting the house, and acting as a shade and shelter to the inhabitants during sunshine and rain. One of these trees intercepted the view of the King's Arms sign on an adjoining tavern, the landlady of which complained that her sign could not be perfectly seen on the market days, and sent a notice to the plaintiff to lop these branches. The plaintiff appeared not to have paid attention to this notice, and the landlady made her complaint to some of her friends in the town council, of which two of the defendants were members, Mr. Boyes and Mr. Crump. The town council decided that the branches of the trees overhanging the street must be lopped. Accordingly, the town clerk sent the plaintiff a notice to this effect, and some correspondence ensued, which resulted in the plaintiff, by his attorney, threatening to bring an action against any one who damaged his trees. Before the terms of this notice had expired, on the 26th of February, early in the morning, a number of men, under the direction of one Wood, a market gardener, who it ap-

peared acted under the direction of the two defendants already named, came to the grounds of the plaintiff, and severed the large branches of fifteen trees which overhung the wall. Thirty large branches were severed from two to thirty inches within the wall. This was the act of which the plaintiff complained. The defence set up was, that the road belonged to the corporation; that the trees were a nuisance, both public and private; and that the corporation have a right to lop them. The jury, however, returned a verdict for the plaintiff, with \$1,500 damages.

Now it is, we apprehend, perfectly clear, on the one hand, that there are cases in which trees projecting beyond the boundaries of their owner's property may be lopped with impunity; and that, on the other hand, if a person not legally entitled so to do, interferes with another's property in the above summary manner, he will deservedly be compelled to pay a large sum of money by way of damages, and perhaps be held to come within the malicious injuries to property act, which would entail still more serious consequences. It is, then, of great importance that the public should know under what circumstances trees may or may not be lopped by persons other than their owner.

Trees which project beyond the boundaries of their owner's property are considered as a nuisance: if they project over a public highway, so as to interfere with the free traffic thereon, they are a public nuisance; if they project over the land of a private person, his rights of property are interfered with, and the trees are a private nuisance. In the first case, where the trees interfere with the free traffic on a public highway, they may, it would appear, be lopped by any one who has been thereby prevented from enjoying a free use of the way, but no other injury he may sustain will justify him in taking such a course. To quote the words of the present Chief Justice of the court of the Queen's Bench: "It is fully established that if there be a nuisance in a public highway, a private individual cannot of his own authority abate it, unless it does him a special injury, and he can only interfere with it so far as is necessary to exercise his right of passing along the highway; and without considering whether he must show that the abatement of the nuisance was absolutely necessary to enable him to pass, we clearly think that he cannot justify doing any damage to the property of the person who has improperly placed the nuisance in the highway, if, avoiding it, he might have passed

on with reasonable convenience." Although, therefore, the trees in the case of *Martin vs. Boyes*, intercepted the view of the King's Arms sign, still, as they did not obstruct the free traffic on the road over which they hung, the defendants were not justified in lopping them.

In the second case, where the trees overhang the private property of another, it seems clear that the owner or tenant of such property may lop them, if the owner of the tree refuses so to do, after notice; *Sic utere tuo ut alienum non ledas*, is a well known legal maxim, and no person has a right to plant trees so near the boundary of his own land, as to cause them to overhang the land of his neighbor, and to interfere with the vegetation, or obstruct the light from it. Our readers must, nevertheless, take care how they lop their neighbors' trees; they must not forget that lapse of time may give a person a right to continue that which was at first only permitted; and that, although upon the principle which makes every continuance of a nuisance a new nuisance, giving a fresh cause of action, it would seem that the mere fact of the trees having overhung another's land, affords no reason why they should continue so to do; yet, in a case which occurred some time ago, where a person being sued for a nuisance, occasioned by the manufactory of candles, defended himself on the ground that three years before the plaintiff became possessed of his property, the defendant had lawfully enjoyed his factory, and carried on the trade of a chandler there. Mr. J. Park said, "20 years' use would legalise the nuisance." They should also be quite sure that the trees do overhang their land; they must be careful to ascertain where the boundary of their property is; for nothing is more common than for a person to suppose that his boundary is where, upon strict inquiry, it turns out not to be.

That "every one should know as much law as will enable him to keep himself clear of it," is an old saying, in the wisdom of which we have no doubt that these defendants by this time fully concur.—*Gardeners' Chronicle*.

RED ANTWERP RASPBERRY.—We hear of magnificent returns of labor, land, and capital devoted to this splendid fruit. One horticulturist, in Connecticut, realised \$800 for his last year's crop, on half an acre, while the huckster to whom he sold them gained nearly as much more. \$3,000 per acre is rather tall picking for an acre of small fruit; but at present prices, this amount can be realised.

SKYLARKS.

THE farmers *proper*, and the farmers *poetic*, seem to have a conflicting time of it in England, as to the injuries and benefits conferred to the farming interest by this long celebrated bird, as we learn from the *Agricultural Gazette*; the *profit* farmer insisting that the skylark does more damage to the springing and ripening grain than it compensates for in its destruction of worms and other insects which prey upon them.

Not being Englishmen, we cannot well judge of the merits of this controversy; but a reading of the arguments of the disputants, *pro* and *con*, demonstrates most clearly that is nearly a drawn game with the poor bird itself. Our youthful reading taught us to love and reverence the skylark, and we confess to a present sorrow in hearing the virtues of our long cherished bird charged as doubtful. But, like the hares and the foxes, we presume the skylark will ultimately come out the victor, as his delicious song, and poetic reputation, will let him off among the landed proprietors, in spite of his occasional peccadillos, as the depredations made by the afore-said hares and foxes are excused for the fun of the sportsman.

It is yet a nice question in this country, as to the benefits rendered, and injuries inflicted by some of our own field songsters. And we trust that some of our ornithological friends may find the time to examine and report more fully than has yet been done, on the good or bad qualities of some of the birds which frequent our farms, and whose reputation for the greater good or evil they do is somewhat equivocal.

MR. VAIL'S SHORTHORNS.

ALLOW me a space in the columns of your paper, to say, that it may not be inappropriate to inform the breeders of cattle that at my public sale of shorthorns, on the 26th of June last, I retained about 14 head for breeding purposes, and that the largest proportion of these are of the Bates importation of cows and heifers, out of their get by my Bates' bulls, Duke of Wellington and Meteor.

The latter bull, with the fine bull Fortune, will, this season, be bred to my herd, or until I receive from England a fresh and appropriate cross, to breed to the heifers of Wellington and Meteor. I now have an order in England to purchase for me a young Duchess bull out of one of the celebrated Duchess cows, bred by the late eminent breeder, Thomas Bates, Esq., and also an order for two heifers possessing the blood of the same herd, and to enable me

to meet the frequent demands made on me for this particular blood, I have added to my present breeding herd, by purchasing, a fortnight ago, eight thorough-bred Durham cows and heifers of great substance, fine symmetry, and so far as developed, excellent milking qualities, of the Messrs. Lathrops, of Massachusetts. The most of this purchase, also, has the blood of Mr. Bates' herd through the bull Yorkshirman, bred by him, and imported by Mr. Joseph Cape, of Pennsylvania, in 1839.

I have retained all the heifers in my herd out of my Bates importation, except the two I sold at private sale on the 26th of June, the day of my public sale. One of these was sold to Mr. Remington, of Philadelphia, and the other to Mr. S. Chapman, of Madison county, New York.

Troy, August 8th. 1851.

GEO. VAIL.

A PATTERN OF A LANDLORD.

THE publisher of the *Agriculturist* made a pleasant trip up the Erie Railroad the other day, and among the agreeable things he met with, was Field's Hotel, at Narrowsburg. We are not disposed to puff everybody nor everybody's house, and if we were, it would do no good in this case; because this house is known not only by most travellers upon this road, but by a great many others, as a delightful location to ruralise in during the dog days, and to hunt, fish, eat and sleep comfortably in at other times.

But this is not to the point. The publisher went to Mr. Field's a stranger, and as a common traveller, without making known his position as an agricultural book publisher, or connected in any way with this paper; but the landlord accidentally learning who he was, took most special pains to pay him marked respect and kind attention, because he had done so much for the farmers to enlighten and improve their minds. But this is not all. He absolutely refused to receive any pay of Mr. S., alledging as a reason that he had taken the *Agriculturist* ten years, and had paid the regular subscription price; that is, \$10 for the whole term; "while," said he, "I have been benefited more than ten times that amount, and always have felt as though it would give me the greatest pleasure to welcome the editors and publisher of that work to my house, as some little return for the information and amusement it has afforded me during so many years. No, sir, you cannot pay a bill in Field's Hotel—you are my guest—my friend—the farmer's friend—an old acquaintance I am glad to welcome." We are proud to say we have hosts of just such friends, throughout this great country.

POST-HOLE AUGERS.

THESE implements are made of convenient sizes and lengths to be worked by a man for boring holes in the ground, of dimensions suited to posts of any required sizes. They lift the soil from the hole as it is bored, without the necessity of using a shovel, spade, or post spoon. They also serve for testing the character of the subsoil, or for exploring in search of clay, sand, gravel, or marl.



POST-HOLE AUGER.—FIG. 58.

CULTIVATION OF THE FOREIGN GRAPE IN THE OPEN AIR.

I READ in the *American Agriculturist* for November, 1850, at page 339, the following sentence relative to the culture of foreign grapes: "We have committed a fundamental error, and that is, in placing our principal dependence on foreign varieties." This assertion, I think, needs qualification—say for localities north of the Potomac, at least.

Again, Downing, in his January number of the *Horticulturist*, emphatically says: "The thing is impossible." I am very glad to find that so great an authority as Mr. A. J. Downing thinks so; because I shall *certainly* try to surmount his "impossible thing."

A few months ago, I added to my then existing stock, several hundred varieties of the vine, from various parts of the world, an enterprise I have not undertaken with a faint heart, nor a want of perseverance, industry, or a knowledge of the subject. My location, you are aware,

consists of a series of sand hills, overlying a clay subsoil, out-cropping at the water's edge of the creek, with beds of white or green marl underneath. With the aid of these elements and an abundance of muck taken from the branches of the creek, I find no difficulty in making a soil to my liking.

I have planted my vines at different periods, of course, as they have arrived from Bordeaux, Oporto, Malaga, Palermo, Madeira, &c. In 145 days, that is, from the moment they began to grow to the 10th of August, some of them yielded fine bunches of sweet grapes, the chasselas, the Muscat de frontignan, and other celebrated varieties among the number. The Muscat was as perfect as I have ever eaten in the south of France. You probably are aware that the average number of days of the best vintage in the south of Europe is about 140; so the maturity of my grapes was not very far from the mark. They had been only seven months in North Carolina.

I perfectly agree with you and Mr. Downing that our best dependency is on our *native seedlings* of European kinds. I do not expect, however, that every variety I have imported, is going to succeed equally well, even in this climate. That would be hoping too much. Time, the corrector of all errors, can only disclose to us the truth.

In travelling through the southern regions of our country, I was forcibly struck with the immense number of wild vines which met my eye on all sides. I therefore determined that Nature should not speak such plain language in vain, and resolved to graft all that were on my premises with European cuttings. This I did; and in the course of the same space of time, as in my other vines, they bore bunches of grapes. This, again, was unexpected by me. The growth of the wood of these grafts can scarcely be believed. Many of them have grown from 80 to 100 feet in length, of good, healthy, hardy wood, and are three or four inches in circumference above the mother stock.

In addition to the foregoing remarks, I might state that I am improving our native wild grape. I have some already that promise well. I have also, at least a hundred seedlings from the Malaga and other grapes. You see, my dear sir, that I do not neglect anything. I daily expect a bundle of caper plants from Marseilles. I think the locality well suited to it, with plenty of marl.

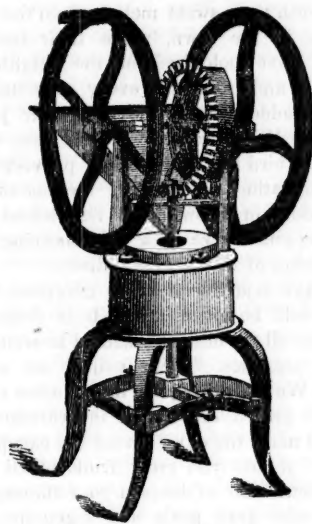
What you say of Professor Johnston's views of the United States with regard to vegetable

productions, may be said with reference to Mr. Downing's sweeping generalisation, and your own in reference to European grapes. There is no generalising of vegetable productions on so vast an extent of soil and climate. We must qualify all our assertions, and to say that the other wild grapes even here are as sweet as the *Skau-per-nong*, (in Indian, sweet water,) would be equally absurd. One thing is certain, that our wild grapes are vastly superior to any wild fruit I know of; and therefore, I have got many varieties under training, hoping by education, to domesticate them, so as to make of them, at least, good wine, if not good table grapes.

Diccoleaux, N. C., 1851. JOSEPH TOGNO.

NEW RICE HULLER.

This machine is one of recent improvement, and will hull from two to ten bushels per hour,



RICE HULLER.—FIG. 57.

according to its size. For a description, see page 280 of the current volume.

SHADE IMPROVES THE SOIL.—Dr. R. T. Baldwin, who has lately made public his experiments, contends that the best, because cheapest and quickest way to fertilise any soil, is to cover it with any substance which will first shade and then decay upon the surface, such as straw, leaves, bushes, or green crops of clover, peas, &c. He contends that soil, when shaded, undergoes a chemical process analogous to putrefaction, which fertilises it astonishingly. The subject is worth thinking and acting upon.

BIRDS.

THE song of birds is one of the most exhilarating pleasures of country life. Everybody should encourage their presence—with some exceptions. Aside from their delicious melody, and their familiar, gentle habits, they do us infinite benefit in the destruction of insects so annoying to our labors, and frequently so destructive to our hopes of the coming fruit, grain and vegetable harvests. Let the young children be taught to love the birds, and not to destroy nor disturb their nests. Birds find out who their friends are as readily as human beings do, as their annual and continued presence at those spots where they are kindly treated, and their absence from those at which they are disturbed, most strikingly indicate.

The same warbling little birds for consecutive years have built their cozy nests in the same honeysuckles near our windows, and poured forth their sweet melody from the same branches in the lawn, while their innocent progeny have colonised in the neighboring shrubbery and trees, and every year they return to gladden our home with their joyous company. While we now write, a most enterprising cat bird has dropped her peevish mew, and is emulating the mocking bird, as she frequently does, in throwing off her richest notes in the sun and breeze of a July morning from the branches of an adjacent willow.

We have said "with some exceptions" the birds should be encouraged. It is difficult to enumerate all the birds that should be welcomed to your premises. Their names are almost legion. We should require the volumes of Audubon to give a full list of the varieties, and therefore name the chief among the exceptions. We take it that you grow fruits of all kinds which flourish out of doors in your climate; and that you also grow grain and vegetables. All birds, not of prey, feed more or less on grubs or insects; therefore, according as they spend their time with us, they are useful in destroying them, and of consequence do us a benefit. Yet, in the balance sheet of profit and loss, some of them stand charged on the wrong side of the account.

In this little category, we will begin with the crow—and most heartily do we wish that we never knew the hateful creature. Some people who have more sympathy than discrimination, advocate the crow, and say that his destruction of worms, grubs, and beetles more than compensates for the damage he commits. All that we have to reply on this head is, that we wish all such peo-

ple had our crows for one season. They would change their opinion. In the first place, he has neither song nor beauty—nothing but that perpetual, impudent *c-r-a-w, c-r-a-w*, to harass your musical nerves, and his black, unseemly carcass, to vex your eyes. With the early sowing of your spring wheat, he is forever in your fields, scratching, pulling, and devouring; and from that to the barley, peas, and oats. On your springing corn field, he is both the walking and flying embodiment of "war, pestilence, and famine," making your labor twice or three times over, and demanding of you the full time of the coming Sunday to rid your heart of the perilous stuff that a week's impatience, bad temper, and imprecations have committed. He attacks your cherries, your apples—I had a large young orchard of fine apples carried off piece meal by them last year—your fruits of all kinds, that he dare approach; and in the harvest season he is at his plunder again on everything in general. Now don't tell of shooting, poison, and scare crows! He can smell powder as far off as you can see him; his insatiable maw is poison proof; and scarecrows are his most intimate friends, for I have often seen him perched upon the top of one's shoulder. In short, the crow is an abominable nuisance—gluttonous, filthy, and obscene. Destroy them in any and all ways possible. They deserve no quarter, young nor old, at your hands. For every grub or caterpillar they destroy they take ten times the worth in grain or fruit, and do you no good whatever. If it be said that "rid yourself of the crows and your diminished crops would suffer for it," we answer that there are large districts of our best agricultural country where no crows are seen, and the favored inhabitants have not yet discovered the want of them.

The red-headed woodpecker is another bird of no value. He is not

"The woodpecker tapping at the hollow beech tree,"

in Moore's agreeable song, and a far different bird from the "yellow-bellied woodpecker" of Wilson and Audubon, and "yellow hammer," and "wakeup" of the country people, which last is a bird of agreeable and early song, and mainly harmless. The red-headed woodpecker is frequently injurious to young fruit trees in perforating their bark, which he does not always to catch insects beneath it; for in his capricious hammerings he more frequently bores into the healthiest among the orchard trees than into the diseased ones. He carries off your young cherries, even before they are

ripe, and dives into the choicest and best-grown apples of your orchard. In compensation, he gives you no song, and his destruction of ground worms is quite doubtful. Suppose he does now and then take a stray caterpillar from your trees which your own want of early attention has tolerated, it is but a lame apology for your negligence, that has suffered the vermin to fatten on your best foliage for the said woodpecker's benefit. This bird is another exception, and I would not harbor him.

Next in our catalogue stands the cedar bird, or cherry bird, as he is more commonly called in the country. He is a pert, natty, sleek, little, drab-coated fellow, with no song but a solitary *pe-pe* about him, and scarce ever at hand except when your cherries are ripe, and then he comes from nobody knows where, in myriads for their destruction. That accomplished, he is off again until your next year's cherry harvest. They have one good quality, however, and that is for the table. They are a good eating bird, and for that purpose just as good game as woodcock, or a wild duck, which no one thinks it wrong, although they do no harm, to destroy. Cedar birds, therefore, are fair game, and justifiably so; for, in permitting them to harbor about us we lose our cherries, and of course our labor and profits.

The common robin, or red-bellied thrush, of our country has so many kind and social qualities about him that, although something of a cherry trespasser, he is entitled to our friendship and toleration—even our affection. His song is sweet. He cheers us with the earliest melody of the season, when the spring breaks upon us, and with the bluebird, and song sparrow, is one of the welcomest heralds of the budding year. Late, too, in autumn, when the November winds are moaning in the naked branches of our trees, he reluctantly leaves us to the sad cheerlessness of winter, and even then oftentimes lingers till the deep snows drive him to a warmer climate. An additional cherry tree or two will amply compensate the *toll* that he exacts as his compensation for the myriads of insects and worms that he takes from our grounds, and in the main account, he does us much more good than evil. Therefore, save the robins.

Another bird or two, as the kingbird and blackbird, might be named, which are somewhat doubtful in character. The one is accused of destroying our bees, and the other of preying upon our barley and oat fields. But

they are great exterminators, also, of noxious insects; and it does my heart so much good to see their implacable hatred of the crow and other *foul* birds, which they frequently drive away from the premises, that we gladly excuse their little peccadillos upon our treasure, for their valuable labors in that line.

To sum up the matter—save the robins, the blackbirds and kingbirds; but wage war, unrelenting war, upon the crow; let the boys practise their shooting irons on the red-headed woodpeckers, and fricassee, or pot-pie the cedar birds with all possible dispatch. L. F. ALLEN.

POULTRY RAISING.—No. 7.

IN regard to the best laying fowls, I have just received a letter from a friend in Rhode Island, one of the best breeders in this country, who says: "I keep 45 distinct and pure breeds of domestic and aquatic fowls, nearly all of which I have imported at a great expense. I have been a fancier and breeder 35 years, and have had all known varieties of domestic poultry; and should a friend ask me which breed I have found best for profit, in all candor, I should say, if your object is eggs, then by all means keep the black Spanish."

Now, a statement like the above, from a gentleman who rears fowls for his own amusement, not for profit, as he writes me, having no interest in saying anything but the truth, I consider highly important. I had already formed a high opinion of the black Spanish fowl, from the universal good opinion of them by almost every writer, and had taken measures to secure a fine selection, as well as of white Dorkings and one or two other breeds, that I have every reason to believe are not humbugs. I have no "hen fever," but when evidence comes to me in an overwhelming shape, that certain breeds of fowls are valuable, I shall be willing to give them a trial. Gentlemen interested in this matter may rely upon receiving through me, in this paper, nothing but what may be depended on, as a candid exposition on the subject—unprejudiced and uninfluenced by interest in any form.

By the way, what is the matter with "Reviewer?" He hopes all poultry essays will "have their necks wrung," &c. Now, I am afraid that this old *cock* has been sadly *hen-pecked* lately, since he seems to *crow* less melodiously than formerly, and he *spurs* both friend and foe; frequently *pecking* awful flaws in the logic of your correspondents. Can it be that the great breeder is about consigning him to

the spit, (heaven avert it,) to make room for a young brood more prolific? T. B. MINER.

Clinton, Oneida Co., N. Y., 1851.

THE TRAVELLER.—No. 7.

WE took our last siesta in the shade of Stone Mountain. Let us awaken at the whistle of the locomotive, which has penetrated even into the solitude of the recesses of this granite wilderness.

It is March 10th. The morning, cool and frosty in this elevated part of Georgia—the evening delightful. Farmers and gardeners are all busy plowing and planting corn and vegetables, and preparing land for the great staple crop of the south. It is a lovely country and salubrious climate; but the green pastures and sleek, beautiful occupants of pastoral countries are not here. It is said, grass and clover does not flourish in this climate. Has it been tried upon deep-tilled, highly-manured land sufficiently to prove it will not endure the heat of summer? Grass requires deeper tillage to prepare the land than is usually given in the south. It also requires to be moist and rich. Some of the swamp lands possess both the latter requisites, and might possess the other, if the owners would plow as some of the northern grass-growing farmers do, ten or twelve inches deep. If Georgia farmers will so prepare such land and seed it to grass and then spread, every year, over the surface, a coat of straw or coarse manure, to serve both as a shade and fertiliser, it is my opinion they can stop the transit of some of the bales of Connecticut hay, which annually find their way up this road, 200 or 300 miles into the interior of one of the best states in the Union.

Madison.—This is a lively, fine county town, 60 miles below Atlanta, on the railroad, containing about a dozen stores, good court house, tolerable fair hotel, and a general appearance of somebody alive having been about there within the last century. But that which gives it the most lively and interesting appearance, is what the town should be most proud of—the several large schools. Here are two seminaries for girls, containing nearly 300 just in that joyous period of life known as the *teens*. These two schools are under the patronage of the Methodist and Baptist churches, the leading sects of the country, and both are constantly exercising a rivalry which results in great benefit to the whole country.

Among the citizens of Madison are many wealthy planters, some of whom own planta-

tions in the western states, but prefer this lovely healthy spot for a residence.

It is surprising to see how little attention is paid to growing good fruit in this part of Georgia, where the soil and climate seem so well adapted to its production. Only a few farmers seem to feel an interest in trying to improve their orchards. One of the few is General Jessup, who has a fine cottage a couple of miles out of town, where he is making efforts to have one of the best orchards the country is capable of producing. The land is somewhat hilly, clayey soil and gravelly—rocks, granite, and slate. Timber, oak, chestnut, pine, &c. He says he produces the best peaches in the world. No doubt they are very good, if not superlatively so. The Skuppernong grape is the only one that grows to perfection here, as well as generally throughout the south.

March 12th. Farmers are now busy planting corn. The usual stand is one stalk in a place, three and a half by four feet apart, or two stalks four by five feet, and the average yield 10 to 15 bushels to the acre. The weather is now as mild and lovely as May or June at New York.

Cotton, the staple crop here, is planted about the first of April, three by four feet apart, and yields about 600 pounds in seed, to the acre, which makes about 200 pounds of ginned cotton.

Greensborough, 20 miles below Madison, is another county town; but it has not that lively appearance, though it contains a good many gentlemen of wealth and intelligence, among which may be ranked Dr. Poullain, planter, merchant, and cotton manufacturer, who has lately built a very tasty residence, and is ornamenting and improving his grounds as every gentleman who has the means should do, so as to make home attractive and pleasant to every member of the family, as I believe is the case with him. Senator Dawson, who is said to be an improving planter, also resides here. One evidence of his disposition to improve, is the fact that he bought two tons of Peruvian guano last spring, to experiment with upon cotton. I very much fear, owing to the drouth the result will be such as to discourage him from continuing its application. But I hope Mr. Dawson is too good a lawyer to give up his case because one witness may fail in giving him the right testimony to sustain it.

Speaking of lawyers, reminds me that some of the most improving cultivators of the soil, are gentlemen of this profession. Why? Because they are reading men. They are disposed to

look to every source of information by which they can gain knowledge in the profession of farming, as well as law. One of this class is Judge Cone, an attorney of this place, who, though far less interested than many other gentlemen, seems to take a delight, whenever he visits New York, in strolling through your great agricultural warehouse, looking by the hour at the great improvements which have been made in all the implements of husbandry, since the day when the old clumsy wooden moldboard Carey plow used to kick his shins upon the rocky hills of Connecticut. And that is not a long age ago, for there I, too, learned the trade of plowman, by the same ill-contrived machine, and an equal amount of hard kicks.

Mr. John Cunningham, merchant, manufacturer, and planter, is another of the gentlemen of Greensborough worthy of mention and commendation in every agricultural paper in the country, for he is one of their most active and influential friends. He says wherever these are taken and read, men improve, and the crops are increased one hundred times more than the papers cost. Mr. C. has done a great deal toward introducing improved tools among the farmers of Green county, and is constantly trying by words and example to induce them to adopt such a system of tillage as will renovate and restore to fertility the old fields that now blot the fair face of nature, and make this once rich and lovely land look like a land of desolation, wasted by the wicked hand of some destroying power, instead of the wasteful ignorance and mismanagement of the very people who should have preserved it even unto the third and fourth generation.

There are several other gentlemen entitled to high credit for the efforts they have made to arrest this destroying process, and save this fine country from destruction.

Union Point.—This is where the road from Athens unites with the main stem, seven miles below Greensborough, 39 from Athens, and 75 miles from Augusta.

Let us rise up and look out upon this blessed March morning, so like those of lovely May with us, and as we shall find but little to interest us in looking over the country, we will hold a most social and animated discussion with these Georgia farmers on our trip up to Athens. The rapid movement of the freight train with an attached passenger car of a most dirty and uncomfortable appearance, won't prevent our conversation. It runs slow and sure. All of these pleasant conversations with the cultiva-

tors of the soil tend to improve it. At Athens we have much to see and say. Let us first take our rest. In another month I hope we shall meet again.

SOLON ROBINSON.

BASKET WILLOW.

Will you be so kind as to permit a working man without the necessary qualifications of a writer, to call your own and the attention of your thousands of readers, to the growth of the basket willow, a subject which appears to me of considerable importance. There are several million dollars' worth of this article imported annually into this country, from Germany and France. An erroneous opinion prevails, that this shrub cannot be grown here. I will simply state that I have some small lots of French, German and English Nottinghamshire willow cuttings, the produce of which is as large, long, straight, and pliable as any growing in the world.

Every farmer will acknowledge, meadow land to be poor that will not yield a ton of hay to the acre, which, when cured and in market, seldom sells for more than \$12. All men who are acquainted with the growth of willow for market, well know that an acre of land ought to yield at least, one and a half tons' weight of it. The cost of preparing willow for market would not exceed \$40 per ton. Now, estimating hay at \$12 per ton, and willow at \$120, deducting from the willow \$40 per ton for preparing for market there is a balance in favor of the willow of \$80 per acre.

Capitalists may think there would be difficulty in finding a market for a large quantity of willow. Although there are some four or five importers of this article in the city of New York, yet, during the present summer, the supply was not half equal to the demand, which increases every year. It must be plain to every observer, who looks into any of the woodenware stores and sees the quantity of willow ware hanging up, that there must necessarily be immense quantities of the raw material used yearly in this country. I have endeavored to collect all the information possible relative to the amount of money paid for willow baskets in the city of New York, and find it reaches over a \$1,000,000, besides the amount for baskets sent to the southern and West-India markets, which would probably reach double the sum paid in New York.

The willow grown here would certainly command a higher price than the imported article, which is pretty well sorted by the French and

German basket makers generally, sending only the inferior qualities here, retaining the best for their own manufacture into baskets to be subsequently imported to this country. I have now at my residence, a lot of imported willow that cost from five to six cents per pound, one half of which is not really worth carting from the store to the dock. It is old and nearly rotten, so much so that it will break almost like pipe stems.

It is principally from France and Germany, that we obtain our supply in this country. There is also a great quantity of willow from the continent imported into England. I do not see why it cannot be exported from the United States into England, as well as flour, corn, Yankee shoes and clocks. The willow grown in this country would of a stern necessity have the preference in market, as the crop would be clean and free from breakage by packing in a ship's hold, a great objection to nearly all the imported willow, a great quantity of which becomes mildewed on the passage to this country, unfitting it to a great extent for use; yet, we are compelled to purchase this inferior stuff, or be idle.

Many of your readers, I suppose, have stood on the banks of the Mosselle, the Seine, the Po, the Thames, the Mersey, the Kingston, the Trent, the Shannon, and the Liffy, and have there seen the thousands of acres of willow.

Plenty of similar land, adapted to the growth of the willow, may be had within range of 100 miles from New York at a low price, with the necessary buildings thereon. I can see no reasonable objection why the manufacture of baskets might not be combined with the growth of the willow.

The experiment of growing willow on a small scale has been successfully made by the lamented Jesse Buel, Esq., of Albany, and by Mr. Bement and Mr. James Wilson of the same city; by the Messrs. Prince, of Flushing, L. I.; Messrs. Brooksby and Brooksbank, of Hudson, and William H. Deming, Esq., of Deming's Point, Fishkill. The latter gentleman has supplied Mr. James Emott, of Poughkeepsie, with cuttings of a good quality, sufficient to plant about 15 acres, which were set out during the last fall and spring, and are now growing very promisingly, on the Fishkill Furnace Farm, Dutchess county. The Hon. Ambrose L. Jordan, also, has a lot of willow on his farm, at Hudson.

In order to form a reasonable estimate of the profits of this business, it is only necessary to go and inspect the lots of willow on the prop-

erty of the gentlemen named above, who will cheerfully, I am sure, state the prices received for a number of years, when it will appear that I am very moderate in my estimate of profits.

Great care should be taken in planting willow in such soils as are best adapted for its growth. Some species will never yield a good crop on wet land, while others will not on lands that are dry. No man should plant willow on his land in large quantity, who has not a stream of water running through the premises.

Should you deem this letter of sufficient importance for room in your valuable journal, and a necessity occur for another on the same subject, it probably may be sent.

WATSON G. HAYNES.

Garrison's Landing, Putnam Co., N. Y.

PROF. NORTON'S LABORATORY AND COURSE IN AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY.

WE had the pleasure, a few days since, of passing an hour with Professor Norton, in his laboratory, at Yale college, New Haven. We found him in the occupancy of what was recently the president's house. This has been so altered and arranged as to give the most convenient and ample accommodations to the professor and his pupils, for their varied and intricate manipulations. The arrangements seemed in every respect to combine scientific principles with the most simple, yet efficient means for analysis and experiment; and in this respect, they afford an excellent lesson for the pupil.

The object of this new department in Yale College is thus succinctly stated: "This course is designed especially for the practical farmer. Those who attend it are not necessarily connected with any other department of the college, and do not require any previous preparation. The subjects treated of are presented in such a simple and connected manner, as to be perfectly intelligible to all.

"The substances of which the plant, the soil, and the animal consist are shown and described. The cultivation of the soil, the qualities necessary to its fertility, the means of improving it by drainage, the composition and effect of the manures applied, are all topics of great interest, and naturally lead to the constitution of the crop, the theories of rotation, &c. The remaining department is that of the animal, the character of whose parts is given, and with this the various theories of fattening and feeding. In this part of the course, the products of the soil are also examined, with special reference to their nutritive and economical value."

We are happy to learn that this new depart-

ment is already in a flourishing condition, far more so than could have been anticipated in so short a period, and in an undertaking entirely new in this country. We are fully convinced that we cannot recommend any branch of instruction, and under any circumstances now in existence in the United States, which is better calculated to fit the intelligent, young, or even the middle-aged farmer, for his interesting diversified occupations, than a thorough course of scientific agriculture as taught by Professor Norton, at New Haven.

WINTER APPLES FOR THE SOUTH.

In the purchase of apple trees from nurserymen, young and inexperienced farmers are too apt to purchase at random, stocking their grounds with a large number of varieties whose names are soon forgotten, and whose properties should be; for they will be found, when too late, to be worthless. The following have been tried and proved in North Carolina, and are recommended for other parts of the south:—

NAMES AND DESCRIPTION.	SEASON FOR USE.
<i>The Fall Queen</i> (green, striped with red).	November.
<i>The Fall Pearmain</i> (red with russet spots).	"
<i>The Romanile</i> (red and yellow).	December.
<i>The Boston Russet</i> (a large russet apple).	"
<i>Pryor Red</i> (striped red russet).	January.
<i>The Hall Seedling</i> (small red with white specks).	"
<i>The Vandervere</i> (bright red and yellow).	February.
<i>The Green Cheese</i> (pale green).	"
<i>The Kerr</i> (yellowish green).	March.
<i>Whitaker Russet</i> (yellow, with russet spots).	April.

To the foregoing list, we would add for Eastern Carolina, the famous Mattamuskeet apple, originated at Mattamuskeet Lake, in Hyde county, about 30 years ago.—*Condensed from the Star.*

POULTRY STATISTICS.

I HAVE always read with interest all communications in your paper concerning stock and poultry. In the May number, I find some statistics concerning the laying of hens, intending to show that Mr. T. B. Miner's statements are not quite up to the mark. I think that within the past year, you have had several communications on this subject (perhaps enough); still, I thought I might as well have my say.

I commenced housekeeping, April 1st, 1849; and, as in duty bound, I bought some hens. I got them from different places, and in various ways. Some I bought, while others were pre-

sented to me. Some of them had done laying and wanted to sit when I got them, which I did not let them do until June, when, from 112 eggs were hatched 100 chickens, six of which died the first week. The rest, I raised. I fed them with wheat until they were two weeks old, when they eat corn. I put two broods together, consequently four hens raised them. In summing up my accounts with them, I find it stands as follows:—

<i>Dr.</i>	
16 hens and two cocks, at 5s. per pair,	\$5.62½
16 bushels of corn, at 36c. per bushel,	8.96
½ " of wheat, at \$1.25 per bushel,	0.31½
	\$14.89½
<i>Cr.</i>	
75 chickens sold at 25 cents each,	\$18.75
30, new stock, at 31½ cents each,	9.37½
61 dozen and 2 eggs, at 13½ cents a dozen,	8.15
	\$36.27½
Net profit,	\$21.37½

In the above table, there is no account made of the eggs used in the family; also three hens died quite early in the season. The gross receipts from each fowl was \$2.01½—cost 82½ cents. Net profit, \$1.18½. I challenge competition. More particulars some other time.

J. V. D. WYCKOFF.

Somerset Co., N. J., Aug., 1851.

PIG-YARD MANURE.

In the construction of a piggery, three important requisites are to be observed, namely, convenience, cleanliness, and economy or facility of making manure. In the selection of a site for such an establishment, it should be located, if possible, on a gentle declivity, in order that one side of the yard may be kept free from moisture or excess of water from rains or melting snows. On the lower side of the yard, a shed may be erected for a day sty, or "eating house," facing a northerly point of the horizon, with the roof sloping towards the south, so that the rain may not run into the yard among the manure; and directly opposite, on the other side of the yard, another shed may be built, facing the south, for a night sty, or "lodging house," with the roof leaned back from the yard towards the north, in order to prevent the rain, as much as possible, from running into the manure.

The yard should be well paved, so that nothing can soak into the ground, in order that the dung, urine, and water from the clouds may mix with whatever may be thrown in, and would thus form one grand slope, the lower side and ends of which, should have a tight wall or barrier, to prevent the loss of manure from the washing of rains, &c.

Thus, in fig. 59 and fig. 60, *A, A*, denote the "lodging house," 12 feet by 20 feet; *s, s, &c.*, the sleeping apartments, 5 by 5 feet each; *d*, a door leading into the walk, or passage way *h*, through which a person can enter to examine the hogs, change their litter, &c.; *e*, a door for the egress of the hogs from their lodgings into the pasture, eating apartment, or yard; *c*, a wooden platform, or bridge, leading from the more elevated ground into the "eating house," for the convenience of carrying in food; *d*, a door leading into the walk, or passage way *h*, communicating with the spouts of the troughs; *t, t, &c.*, the troughs near which is a grated or latticed floor, sufficiently open to be kept dry, sweet, and clean, and allowing all the excrement and filth to fall into the yard beneath; *e*, a door for the egress of the hogs from their eating apartment into the pasture, lodging apartments, or yard, over a bridge or inclined plane, to the more elevated ground; *y*, the yard, with a paved bottom sloping from the lodging house to the wall *w*, under the lower side of the eating house; *P*, a pasture, orchard, or paddock, communicating with the eating and lodging apartments, or with the yard.

Whatever be the mode of construction of the sty, it should have one part close and warm, with a tight roof over it; and the other part, containing their troughs, more or less open to let in the light and air; for swine will not bear to be wholly excluded from the weather and sunshine; and it is equally hurtful to them to be constantly exposed to the wet and cold, as well as to the intense heat from the sun. They should be allowed to run at large in a pasture, paddock, or orchard during a portion of the year. To prepare a pasture for them, let the ground be broken up, tilled, and manured, and then laid down with clover. For swine are more fond of this grass than of any other. Let the quantity of land be so proportioned to the number of hogs, that they may keep the grass from running to seed. For this will prevent waste; and the shorter the feed, the sweeter the herbage, and the more tender and agreeable to their taste. One acre of rich land is considered sufficient to support 20 or more swine through the summer, say from the first of May till the last of October.

It should also be remembered, that the pasturing with swine will enrich the land more than by pasturing or soiling with other stock; and by this means, the profit of the farmer will be increased. When it can with convenience be so ordered, it is an excellent plan to make a

hog pasture of an orchard. For, the shade of the trees will be very grateful and comfortable to them in summer; their dung is allowed to be one of the best of manures for the apple; and besides, they will keep the ground around the roots very light and loose, and they will destroy many insects that infest the trees or their fruit. It will also be of great advantage to a hog pasture to have plenty of water in it during the summer; and that which is running is best, as it will afford the swine the most wholesome drink, and at the same time will serve as well



FIG STY.—FIG. 59.

as any other for them to wallow in; and it will keep them clean, which is no small advantage. But the most dirty puddle is better than none, as they can cool themselves in it in hot weather, which is very refreshing to them, and conducive to health.

A piggery constructed according to the foregoing plan will form a safe and economical receptacle for the dung and urine of the animals, together with whatever may be thrown in

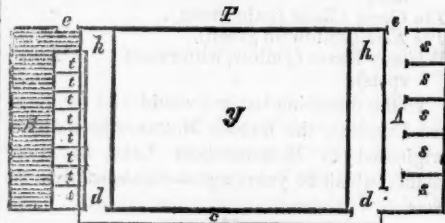


FIG STY.—FIG. 60.

among them. The refuse of the garden, or other waste matter, as bean stalks, the cods of beans and peas, weeds, dried plants, as well as dried peat, swamp or pond muck, loam, and other earthy materials, thrown in, from time to time, will please the hogs, which they will work over, and produce a quantity of manure many times greater than naturally would be made from the same number of swine. This may be cleared away as often as may be necessary, and used as an excellent dressing for the land, as there may be occasion, throwing in fresh matter in return.—*American Muck Book*.

HUNGARIAN CATTLE.

THE accompanying is a cut of a female of the celebrated breed of Hungarian cattle, procured for Mr. R. L. Colt of Paterson, N. J., by Col. Webb of New York, when minister to Austria.

that his standard of a well-bred animal was not very high, for these cattle are far inferior in their forms to the Durham, Devon, or in fact any improved breed of English cattle. With the long horns of the oxen, they may make rather an

HUNGARIAN COW.—Fig. 61.



When we read Mr. Fleischman's description of these cattle in the Commissioner of Patent's Report, we expected to see something quite superior; but on their arrival here, we discovered

imposing appearance, but they cannot by crossing improve the good animals we already have in this country.

Mr. Colt informs us that they are very hardy,

and eat less, and keep in better condition than any cattle he ever had; but the cow disappointed him in her dairy qualities, all she eats going to make flesh instead of milk.

The color of these animals is a bluish grey or roan, slightly inclined to white. We recommend them to the attention of the curious in such things.

CHEMISTRY OF MILK.—No. 3.

I HAVE referred to the fact that milk may become poisonous, or acquire deleterious properties suddenly through the influence of emotion; it may also acquire dangerous properties through other channels. One of the most remarkable instances of poisonous milk occurs in the cows of the southwestern states. It is called "milk sickness." It is an endemic disease and appears in the deep land coves where the spurs of mountains shut in the more level areas. The flesh and milk are both poisonous; but the poison in the former product is confined to the oily part, or cream. Few persons recover from the effects of the poison, and when life is prolonged, the individual drags out a miserable existence. This disease shows conclusively that the secretion is not independent of extraneous influences, and is more or less affected by those causes which disorder the system generally.

I shall now proceed to the consideration of those matters which relate to the composition of milk.

In determining the composition of milk, I followed Haidlen's method. Four hundred grains of milk are taken. It is mixed with 100 grains of gypsum and then boiled; the milk coagulates; is then dried perfectly in a water bath or sand bath upon white paper, which is allowed to brown slightly; it is dried until it ceases to lose weight. The loss it has sustained is water. The dry pulverised mass is exhausted of oil or butter by strong ether. The ether is dissipated by heat, and the remainder weighed. The solid residue is then acted upon by common alcohol which dissolves the sugar and a little extract. The casein of cheese is found by adding together the results and subtracting the sum from the dry mass. To confirm the result, 400 grains of skimmed milk is taken and coagulated with a drop or two of sulphuric acid. The whey is removed by straining, the coagulum dried until it ceases to lose weight. It contains from one and a half to two grains of butter, which is dissolved out by ether. This last method, I have found agrees with the former when both are conducted with due care. The

ash, or saline matter, is determined by drying and burning 1,000 grains of milk, of the same milking. I use this ash for an inorganic analysis.

The results obtained are regarded as accurate, or certainly as very close approximations to the true composition. This method certainly gives results which are comparable. I should remark here that the first three analyses were conducted without the aid of gypsum, the rest were made as stated above.

The first milk which I submitted to an examination was obtained while the cow was feeding upon grass, and about the middle of November. The feed at this time was not abundant, but pumpkins were given every day, which, however, did not appear to add to the quantity of milk which the cow had been giving. The milk at this time had the following composition:—Specific gravity 1,032. Water being 1,000.

Water,.....	85.80
Solid matter,.....	15.55
Butter,.....	5.76
Casein,.....	5.62
Sugar and extract,.....	3.83

A quantity of the same milk was churned; it gave per pound of milk 457 grains of butter, which is equivalent to about 5.9 per cent. after deducting the casein—perhaps the casein was not entirely removed.

The composition of the grass cut the 20th of November, I found as follows:—Five hundred grains well dried in a water bath, gave 160.4 grains, or water 339.6 grains. Ash, 11.32. One hundred grains of dry grass gave of

Chlorophyl, or wax,.....	5.08
Sugar and watery extract,.....	21.60
Fibre,.....	73.32

The ash or inorganic part gave of

Silex,.....	46.12
Earthy phosphates,.....	16.30
Carbonate of lime,.....	10.60
Magnesia,.....	0.86
Potash,.....	14.63
Soda,.....	9.40
Sulphuric acid,.....	0.47
Chlorine,.....	0.06

The ash of the milk gave nearly 50 per cent. of earthy and alkaline phosphates. The analysis of the grass is given mainly to show its composition at this season of the year. The chlorophyl, or wax, is regarded by Professor Thompson as important in respiration. It is not supposed to furnish the material from which the butter is formed. Its amount is diminished in passing through the system and what is not consumed in respiration appears unchanged in the solid excrements. The sugar and soluble parts in water, as albumen, furnish the materials from which the milk is derived.

Having a quantity of turnip tops intermixed

with small turnips, the cow was confined for five days to the diet. At the end of this short period, the tops began to freeze, and hence were unfit for feeding. The milk now gave the following composition:—

Water.....	84.73
Solid matter.....	15.36
Butter.....	4.76
Casein.....	7.55
Sugar and extract.....	3.60
Saline matter.....	0.78

This analysis shows an increase of casein, a result which might perhaps be expected. The feed imparted to the milk the turnip flavor.

The ash of the turnip tops has the following composition:—

Silex and some adhering sand.....	16.60
Earthy phosphates.....	13.30
Carbonate of lime.....	38.60
Magnesia.....	1.51
Potash.....	9.13
Soda.....	3.94
Sulphuric acid.....	5.92
Chlorine.....	6.05

Albany, N. Y., August, 1851. E. EMMONS.

REVIEW OF THE AUGUST NUMBER OF THE AGRICULTURIST.

Pork—Bacon—Ham.—The first sentence of this number, speaking of the way every part of the pig is converted to some useful purpose, in England, conveys or should convey to us a useful lesson of economy. Instead of saving all the offal in this country, we waste nearly all of it. More than 20 years ago, I took a trip through the west, during the pork-packing season. At Cincinnati, I saw six-horse-wagon loads of offal; that is, heads, feet, ribs, and back bones, hauled to the Ohio River and thrown in to feed the cat fish. The pluck, blood, and hair were never thought of as worth saving. I believe the Buckeyes, or some importation of lard-oil-making Yankees, have since discovered that such things are good for something besides fish bait; but in many parts of the western country, the same waste still prevails, particularly of blood and hair—two valuable ingredients for the compost heap. One fact is mentioned in this number of the article, which is worthy of particular note at this season of the year. When the hams are sufficiently cured, mix up a sort of pomatum of lard, sugar, and black or Cayenne pepper, and rub over all the fleshy parts of the ham, especially the end of the hock. It excludes the air and keeps off flies. The worst condition of the atmosphere to cure pork, is, when the weather is moist whether warm or cool, particularly that condition known as "muggy." Hot, dry weather is not so bad. The writer says pork must hang to cool 16 to 36 hours before salting. I say it is not necessary. It may be salted as soon as dressed.

Goths and Vandals.—The spirit of destruction walketh abroad at noon day, and this correspondent has well named these destructionists, Goths and Vandals; for such wanton destruction of beautiful shade trees evinces a barbarous and uncultivated mind. "Woodman spare that tree," but do not spare your blows upon those who wantonly cut it down.

Experiments with Fresh and Compost Manures.—like a great many other experiments show no practical result. Nothing short of five years' careful and continued trial will give Mr. Gray perfect satisfaction whether it is better to apply manure fresh or composted.

Chemistry of Milk.—In glancing over the pages of this number, the careless reader would never suppose the article under this caption contained this valuable piece of every-day information, and so I will repeat it; "A five-year-old cow, (known as the Dutch breed,) consumed 22 pounds of hay per day, during the month of December, and drank 44 pounds of water. Her calf, seven months old, ate 12 pounds of hay and drank 17 pounds of water per day. A large horse consumes 31 pounds of hay per day."

Fattening Animals in Confinement.—I am not going to enter into the merits of this controversy; but if it is right for the farmer to adopt that course in preparing his animals for market, which will bring the greatest amount of money, without regard to the quality of the meat for human food, then is the distiller who prepares meat or milk for market, right upon the same principles. If fatness of carcass is the only criterion of excellence by which the consumer judges the quality of the farmers' meat, we are fast approaching an enviable Exquimaux condition of life, where man is contented with a diet of whale blubber and train oil.

New Importation of Merino Sheep.—It appears from this interesting letter that we have very little occasion to send to Europe to improve our flocks. We have good ones at home.

Philosophy of Eating.—If this article could be read and properly digested, there would not be so much complaint in the country of indigestion. "Truly," says Dr. Hall, "nine tenths of all our ailments, acute and chronic, enter the system through that orifice of the human face out of which cometh lies and deceit and all manner of abominations, except the abominable practice of bolting such vast quantities of indigestible, half-masticated food—conduct a respectable pig would be ashamed of."

Amount of Foreign Flax Consumed in the London Trade.—A very interesting statistical article,

which reminds me to inquire how much foreign flax is consumed in the American trade, which might, yes, ought to be grown at home, if not a little surplus for foreign countries, instead of drawing our own supplies from abroad.

Plowing.—"Never plow wet land in wet weather." No, nor dry weather either. You had much better be employed draining it in all weathers, until it is fit to plow in any.

Wool Growing in Virginia—A Remedy against Dogs.—I am glad you republished this article from the Richmond Whig; for it tells a fact only known to a few, apparently; that Virginia, at this time, offers very great inducements to the flock masters of the United States, to take up her worn-out and abandoned old fields, and convert them into neat, superior sheep pastures. The only preventive of that state becoming one of the greatest wool-producing ones in the world, is the great curse of this country—an excess of mean, miserable cur dogs, almost as worthless as their owners.

Sheep-Shearing Festival.—When shall we have that blessed time which will bring a continual round of these festivals for all our rural population—Sheep Shearings, May Days, Harvest Homes, Corn Huskings, and Apple-Paring Bees? Oh! the good old times of 70 years ago.

Strawberries.—If only one half of that statement about Mr. Peabody's success in raising strawberries is true, the article is worth more than the whole cost of the Agriculturist to all of your subscribers for a year. By the bye, who is this Mr. Peabody? Is he one of our Connecticut boys? If he is, I wish him to say so and speak for himself, and tell us this is a true statement about his growing strawberries from the same vines five or six months in succession. It is wonderful.

Hemp Cotton.—Will wonders never cease? The discoveries of this age are surpassingly wonderful. Who will try the experiment you suggest upon the cotton stalk? It contains a heavy coating of strong fibre. So does the okra plant; the stalks, also, of the mulberry are worthy of notice. But if the same plan will answer to separate the fibre from the glutinous mass of the leaf of the common bear grass, it might be grown to great advantage in the southern states.

Sense of Hearing in the Horse.—Perhaps the strongest instances of accuteness of hearing in the horse is evinced while he is acting as a sentinel, fearing the night approach of some stealthy foe. I have known cases of this which surpass all human belief. As much as man

loves this noble companion, he never fully appreciates his worth until placed with him in eminent peril. The most awful and heart-rending sounds that ever fell upon my ear, were the dying groans of a horse, in a deep wilderness at midnight.

Mulching.—Mr. Allen talks of mulching newly-planted trees. Beneficial, yea almost indispensable as it is to such, it is equally beneficial to bearing trees. I believe I have often doubled my crop of peaches and cherries by this process. I am greatly in favor of mulching, not only orchards, but many other things grown upon the farm. Shade is an undoubted fertiliser. The benefit of that is derived from mulching, and then the benefit of a good top-dressing of manure as it decays.

Orchard Caterpillars.—"Nothing so defaces an orchard as the caterpillar." Doubted. I would rather see a few caterpillars upon a well-trimmed orchard than good trees growing up more like scrub oaks than fruit trees; for, in one case, it looks as though the owner desired and intended to raise fruit, while in the other, it appears as though he cared nothing for the comfort of himself or family. Nothing adds so much to the looks of a farm as a well-trimmed thrifty orchard full of its health-giving, luscious product.

Cranberries.—You are right. It is a water plant, and it is forcing nature to try to cultivate it upon dry land; but there are many places upon our New-England farms well adapted to its cultivation, which I have not the least doubt may be done successfully and profitably. The cranberry culture should be extended, as it may be, until the price is brought within the more immediate reach of the mass of the people than at present.

Keep Your Fruit Trees Straight.—Not at all important. Better straighten a great many other crooked things about the farm. I doubt the fact stated that an erect tree will be longer lived, and more fruitful than a leaning one, and not so liable to casualty. True, I like best to see straight trees; but it is not so very important, and I cannot think of any casualty more likely to happen to the crooked tree than the straight one, except being blown over; and I do not know why the leaning one should go down any quicker than the other.

The Blackberry Culture.—"Their cultivation is extremely simple." That is a fact; one of the most successful culturists I ever knew, was the laziest lout in the whole country. The consequence was, that his "clearing" grew up to a

most luxuriant growth of blackberries, for the very reason that he never raised any other crop, worth harvesting. He was extremely proud of his blackberries, as much so as though he had produced them by careful cultivation. One day, one of his neighbor's children came upon his premises to gather berries, because she could find very few at home; for her father was one of that class who eradicated everything of the kind, without thinking of saving a little patch for family use. Although the blackberry owner had more than he knew what to do with, he had no idea of letting his neighbor enjoy his fruit. So he told the little girl to go home and tell her father to grow his own blackberries—that any man of any sort of industry could raise just as many blackberries as he could use, and not be trespassing upon his neighbors. Now I think just so; a little industry will give every man his own blackberries; and a very excellent, cheap, and healthy fruit they are. The directions for making a plantation of them in the article under review, are sufficient to enable any one to raise his own blackberries.

Asparagus.—Everybody loves it—about one in ten grows it; and about one in ten of those grow it to perfection. But this article says, every person fond of it should know how to produce it every month in the year. That is what I should like to know. Can the writer tell us?

Excursion to Lakeland.—There is one sentence in this article which must strike many of your readers with surprise. It is this: "Lakeland is a new settlement in the midst of the great wilderness, 50 miles from the city of New York." A *wilderness*, they will exclaim, so near the city, and upon lands, too, so susceptible of cultivation as these lands appear to be? How is it possible that such a tract could have laid idle and unoccupied more than a century in the immediate vicinity of such a city as New York—such a market for every product of the earth? It certainly is strange, but not more strange than it is that much larger tracts have been cultivated in such a way they have barely afforded a very meagre living to the occupants, while the fertility has deteriorated rather than improved. There is much land within 50 miles of New York, which, if not in wilderness, certainly is in a wilderness of intellect, as unimproved and more unimproveable than the tract you have spoken of around Lakeland. REVIEWER.

ONE unruly animal will learn all others in their company bad tricks.

VERMONT STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, CATTLE SHOW, AND FAIR.

THE first annual State Fair of Vermont was held at Middlebury, on the 10th and 11th of September. Having a pressing invitation from some of the originators of this praiseworthy enterprise, we went to meet them in their mountain home, and participate in the triumphs of their first great annual gathering.

A state society had not been fully organised, but an invitation was extended to all for the exhibition of their stock, without any of the accompaniments of judges or awarding committees, or the incitement of premiums. In the absence of this stimulus and notwithstanding the short notice that was given, there was a promptness in their response to the call, that reflects the highest credit on the farmers of Vermont. To say that the exhibition was worthy of the state, or that it represented even to the most limited extent, her agricultural, mechanical, or industrial interests would be rendering her great injustice. There were but three departments of the show that approached to a fair representation. These were in the sheep, the horses, and the *men*.

Such a hardy race of unadulterated farmers, we have not seen for many a long day. In fact, there is not one of the eastern or middle states so purely agricultural as Vermont. She has no commerce, and few manufactures; and there is nowhere within her boundaries, that class of idlers, loafers, or *chevaliers d'industrie*, that successful commerce and sudden or inherited wealth beget. Probably no other state in the Union presents a more general equality in the pecuniary and social condition of its citizens, and none where there is practised a more uniform industry and economy. The learned, and even the literary professions, are most worthily represented, but the devotees of these are scarcely withdrawn from the agricultural class, and appear in no respect to feel elevated above them. Her ablest representatives and senators, some of whom we met, seemed to be farmers and farmers only. They were peers among the best of the nation's counsellors at Washington, and they are only peers among their worthy constituents at home.

The *Sheep* exhibited have never been surpassed; indeed, they have never been equalled in some of their distinctive families, in any show in the United States. The French Merinos, imported by Mr. Taintor, and exhibited by the Messrs. Bingham, about 100 of which were on the ground, exceeded anything America has yet

seen, and they were only equalled by those reserved by Mr. T., in his own sheep fold at Hartford. They appeared to us considerably to exceed the merits of his earliest importations, the result, probably, of his long and favorable acquaintance with their breeders in Europe, which has enabled him to procure the choicest animals from their *reserve*, which he could not for some time procure. This has given him a peculiar and exclusive advantage, which his intelligence and enterprise has not failed to perceive and appropriate. We doubt if the world has ever seen any better animals. Mr. T. looked almost exclusively to quantity and quality of fleece, and hardness of constitution; yet, while eminently successful in these, he has succeeded in securing carcasses, equal in size, and almost as perfect in form, as the Southdown. In addition to those shown by Messrs. Bingham, there were many excellent French Merinos exhibited by Messrs. Jewett, Campbell, Sandford, and Hammond; and some of the latter gentlemen showed a few Prussian sheep of rare excellence, descended from the Infatado and other choice flocks of Spain. The merits of these consisted in comparatively large weight of fleece, on small carcasses. They worthily represent the best specimens of our earliest importations of Merinos, by Messrs. Humphreys, Jarvis, and others. Besides the Merinos, we saw no other sheep—not a single representation of the Saxon, the long or the middle wools.

Horses have long been a staple of Vermont, and at no former period has she equalled the number and excellence of her present stock. But as in sheep, this display was confined to a single class—the *active roadster*. We saw no racers, no heavy draught horses, and no Cleveland bays. Those shown were principally descendants of the famous Morgan horse; and certainly, we have seen no better horses in their class than these. We liked the arrangements for showing these animals, better than any before practised. They were brought upon the show ground and occupied a stand within or outside of the course, at their exhibitor's option; but on the call of the committee, each prominent sire took the lead around the course of half a mile or more in circumference, followed by his progeny. First came Black Hawk, a veteran of 16 years, with a troop of 30 or 40 young stallions, and most of them presenting a striking resemblance to the original. Then followed the White-Mountain Morgan, the Green-Mountain Morgan, the Hambletonian, &c., and their respective gets; and last of all the

geldings and matched horses, of which but few were exhibited. The mares and colts were very numerous and choice, and we believe everybody's mare in Vermont had a colt. One of our correspondents has recently characterised the Morgan horse a humbug. We wish there were more such agricultural humbugs. He has equally failed in characterising this fine family of horse flesh. He has evidently drawn his ideas from the throng of miscellaneous brutes that have been picked up by jockeys of every hue, and palmed off among the unsophisticated wherever such customers could be found. Of course, there is no such thing as a pure Morgan horse, as their origin dates from a single animal, and less than 60 years ago. But they have had about the same period to form a peculiar race as the Ayrshire cattle, and their success is fully equal. They are not homogeneous in form, appearance, nor character; but they are enough so to be entitled to the possession of a distinctive family name. There are wide departures from their general resemblance, in many of the progeny that are bred from uncouth dams. We have seen some over 16 hands high, and some scarcely 12; some with steep rumps, big heads, and dull eyes, or sluggish gaits, that were called Morgans, and probably enough were gotten by them, but the characteristics of the dam were too potent to be subdued by a single cross. In conclusion, we are compelled to say, that the true type of the Morgan horse is as desirable an animal for the road, whether our taste, or convenience, or pockets are concerned, as we have ever seen in harness; and success say we to the Vermont enterprise, of rearing and maintaining a new and highly creditable family of horses.

In *Cattle*, we found little to commend as compared with the New-York State Show, yet much if compared to some of her sister states. Mr. Sanford, of Orwell, had two beautiful imported Devon cows and a calf, from the celebrated herd of Mr. Turner; and Mr. Gregory, of Northfield, showed a number of Herefords, from Mr. Sotham's importation, and their descendants and crosses. There were some other good Devons, and a few shorthorns, but these were deficient both in number and excellence. Vermont is not the place for shorthorns. It is the Devons and Herefords that are best adapted to her soil and surface, and these she will do well to encourage and propagate. There were few good cows, and fewer still of fat cattle, but a goodly show of steers and working oxen.

Of *Swine*, there were only a few; but some

Suffolks from the stock of the late Mr. Stickney, possessed rare excellence.

The Poultry was limited to half a dozen coops, and some of these would have answered for the original in the present volume of the *Agriculturist*, page 56, fig. 11.

Of Fruits, Flowers, Vegetables, Grain, the Dairy, and Other Farm Products, there was scarcely anything but a few strings of onions and a mess or two of potatoes.

Almost the only farm implements shown—and there were no others except Fairbank's scales—were from the celebrated manufactory of Messrs. Ruggles, Nourse, Mason & Co., and a few plows from Messrs. Prouty & Mears. No manufactures, except a little leather and iron, a piece or two of sheeting, and perhaps a little besides, from a state that embraces its full share of intelligence, a variety of mineral products and manufactures, bespeaks a want of understanding or interest in their exhibition, which we think another year will remedy. Our observations above must be understood as limited to the first day's exhibition. There were subsequent arrivals for exhibition which may have materially enhanced its merits.

The Address was delivered by Mr. Holbrook, of Brattleboro, on the fair grounds, at 2 P. M., to a large and interested audience, and was said to have been excellent, but we did not have the pleasure of listening to it.

AMERICAN PLOWS IN EUROPE.

MR. JOHNSON, secretary of the New-York State Agricultural Society, thus writes to the *Cultivator*, from London:—"While we were trying the American plows, an English gentleman, living adjoining the land we were plowing, who had seen me as soon as I arrived on the ground, asked the privilege of trying our plows with one horse. He took one to another part of the field, and with one of his big horses, plowed with perfect ease, six inches deep and nine inches wide, without any extra effort of his horse. He gathered around him, as you may well imagine, a large crowd, and the wonder expressed was very amusing. The result of this was, that the gentlemen ordered this plow on the spot, and before I left, gave the names of four others in the neighborhood, who were present, for the plows to be ordered for them. This gentleman said, after he had tried the plow, I do not mind what the judges may say about the plow, it is the one for me."

Further on, he says: "I became acquainted at our trial of plows with Count de Gourcy, a dis-

tinguished French gentleman, who is one of the most distinguished French agriculturists that I ever met with. He spoke in very high terms of our plows. He had seen three of them in operation in France, which had been sent over by some American gentleman who had purchased Rambouillet sheep; but his name he did not recollect. They were, he said, so light, so simple in their construction, so easily operated by the peasantry of France, and so cheap, that he preferred them altogether, to any other plows. He expressed himself highly gratified with the performances of our plows at the trial—said they had accomplished all that was desired."

The gentleman alluded to above, and of whose name Mr. Johnson was ignorant, is John A. Taintor, Esq., of Hartford, Connecticut; and the plows were of our manufacture. Our agricultural implements have not only been sent to France, but to nearly every other country in Europe, and given great satisfaction. They are especially liked for their simplicity, strength, and cheapness; and the superior ease and facility of accomplishing their work. As a general rule, it does not require more than half the power to propel an American agricultural implement as a European.

SCALDING HOGS.

I SAW an article some time since, in the *Agriculturist*, on scalding hogs with stones; or rather, heating the water with stones instead of in furnaces or pots; and I thought I would send you a description of my proceeding in such work.

I have a scalding, or large wooden tub, with a boiler in it, by which we heat the water by building a fire within the boiler, which saves the trouble of bailing off the water after the tub is filled, or of handling stones either, and a much more convenient way it is.

I will give you a description of it as well as I can without an engraving, which I am unable to give. It is five feet three inches long, two feet wide at top, and twenty inches to the boiler from the top of the tub, the boiler being a long cylinder of copper or sheet iron eleven inches in diameter, reaching from the outside of one end of the tub to nearly the inside of the other end, where it has a shoulder; and the rest is the size of a common stove pipe, reaching through the end of the tub, to put a pipe on for the draft and smoke to pass through. The larger end should be even with the outside of the tub, and have a door, with a flue hole in it, attached to the tub. Some are made wider at the top than at the bottom. Mine is so, being

only sixteen inches at the bottom, and sixteen inches to the bilge, being the same width at the top of the tub. It should have a rack, or something like a ladder, over the boiler to keep the hog from laying upon it, and should have a wooden roller put inside the tub, at the end where the boiler door is level with the top of the tub, to assist in getting out the hog, and have another ladder with rollers, to pull the hogs on, with a couple of hooks on one end to hold it to the tub.

The wood used for fuel need not be more than two feet long. Corn cobs will do to heat the water with, though wood is the best. It can be heated in an hour or two, if the pipe draws well. A tub of this size will scald a hog that will weigh 700 pounds. It should have a lid to it, to make the water heat quick. Mine is made of cedar plank two inches thick, with two planks on each side, and three iron hoops, one on each end, to go all the way round the tub, and one in the middle to lap over the top of each plank.

PETER E. HARVEY.

Columbus, N. J., 1851.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL SHOW AND FAIR OF THE

N. Y. State Agricultural Society.

THE eleventh Annual Fair of the New-York State Agricultural Society, was held in Rochester, on the 16th, 17th, 18th, and 19th days of September. The site was eligibly chosen on the left bank of the Genesee, within two miles of the centre of the city, and nearly opposite the picturesque and tastefully ornamented grounds occupied by the Mount-Hope Cemetery. There was, however, a serious drawback to their comfort, in the absence of all shade, except such as was afforded by tents and temporary structures, devoted to the purposes of the society. If these natural awnings cannot be found at some convenient point, we insist for the suffering thousands that may hereafter congregate at these annual fairs, that temporary seats, with ample awnings, be located in different parts of the grounds, that exhaustion shall not necessarily follow the effort to study the subjects of interest presented for investigation. Another, and much more intolerable nuisance existed, in the suffocating clouds of dust that enveloped for a mile and a half, the only approach to the show grounds. Why this gross neglect is permitted, both by the officers of a society that has received such ample remuneration from the public, and by the citizens of the place, who promised all due provision for the comfort of members

and spectators, we are at a loss to conceive. One thousand dollars would have been well bestowed in saturating the ground; and probably a fifth of this sum would have been ample for this purpose. We would make it a condition to the holding of any subsequent fair, that the approaches to and around the premises, should be free from the annoyance of dust, which, of course, is always to be expected at the season when these exhibitions occur. In other respects, the arrangements were entirely appropriate and liberal. An extensive enclosure, and convenient tents and buildings, afforded ample accommodation for spectators, animals, and products. The citizens of Rochester were kind and hospitable to the last degree. Without this generous hospitality on their part, many a weary stranger would have had to lodge in open barracks, instead of the well-furnished chambers so freely offered.

We cannot, however, bring within this commendation, the ridiculous effort at display, got up by some ambitious, but weakly-minded citizens, under the head of a *festival*. What would any sober-minded, plain farmer deem an appropriate festival for the multitude who were wearied by a ten hours' exposure to the broiling sun, in the suffocating dust we have alluded to, and among beeves, and horses, sheep and poultry, implements and garden truck? Why, clearly, if anything were proffered beyond a comfortable supper, clean linen, and a quiet bed, it would be a general entertainment of plain but substantial fare, with good music and spirit-stirring speeches, such as the occasion would not fail to elicit from the numerous choice spirits that annually congregate there. In such an assemblage, the body might be refreshed, while the senses were gratified and the mind improved by the feast of reason. But, what had we in the place of this common-sense entertainment? Why, a thing called a *festival*, but really, an attempt at a *fashionable ten dollar admission ball*, where white kid gloves, dainty music, the most absurd and costly refreshments, and the primmest kind of ceremony and manners were the distinguishing characteristics. The starch was thickened and the gloom deepened, by some very formal and premeditated speeches, previously committed to paper, and perhaps, read by one leading functionary to another. The description of this lugubrious affair, by an eye witness—for we were much better employed in sleeping off the fatigues of the day—would have been sadly painful had they not been so uncontrollably ludicrous.

One other item we feel bound to notice as it deserves. A large bill for the entertainment of *distinguished invited guests*, was said to have been ignored both by the committee of the society and that of the citizens. We trust the getters up of such invitations will have the good sense to see this matter settled in some other way than by taking the hard earned contributions of the society. Members are willing to pay their money for the legitimate objects of the society; but for such toadyism as is shown in running up scores for many hundreds, not to say thousands of dollars, to pay extortionate hotel bills for exacting guests, is not what they bargain for, or will quietly submit to. The plain cold cut, provided by the society, and taken on the ground, in true farmer style, by the committees and working officers of the society, we decidedly approve of, and heartily commend in all future arrangements.

The success of this fair, so far as is shown by the receipts of money, and the number of spectators, is decidedly in advance of any preceding one. The amount is some \$3,000 larger than ever before taken for members and admission upon the grounds; and the number of entries for exhibition, in many of the departments, far exceeded any before. We will give these in a subsequent number, when accurately ascertained from the society's books.

The Shorthorns were in greater perfection than ever before at the State Fair, or any other fair in the United States. Several of England's very best, and their immediate descendants, were there, and they are now in such hands as we can rely on for fully sustaining, if they do not even improve their valuable points for American farmers.

The Devons have never before been seen in America, in so large numbers, and of such unqualified excellence. Many of these were but lately imported from the choicest herds of Devonshire; and some others, bred from recently-imported stock, hardly fell behind in merit. Three beautiful spayed Devon heifers, of finer forms, and greater size, than we ever before saw. We believe they could hardly be matched, and certainly not surpassed by any steers of the same age, either for the yoke or the shambles. We have neither time nor room now to give the names of animals nor their breeders, but shall publish a list of both in our next.

The Herefords, that really meritorious breed of horned cattle, were principally in the hands of two or three persons. But they fully evinced the excellent points that characterised the impor-

tations made some ten years since. We regret that others have not followed to sustain and extend this valuable breed.

Of Ayrshires, very few were exhibited; of *Allderneys*, three or four; of *Hungarians*, two; and of *Mixed Breeds and Natives*, fat cattle and *Dairy Animals*, there were less than we have ever seen on a similar occasion. There were, however, some choice specimens of each, scarcely if any falling below their most successful predecessors.

Some excellent *Sheep*, were on the ground. *The Southdowns* were, perhaps, as a body, better than any equal number before exhibited, there being a large proportion lately imported from the best flocks of Jonas Webb and others. There were many good specimens of the *long-wools*, but these were not shown in large numbers. There were numerous entries of *fine-wool* sheep, either pure or variously compounded of choice Merino and the finer Saxons. We saw, however, but few of the large French Merinos, of which Vermont exhibited so largely at her late State Fair.

Horses were shown in large numbers, greater we believe than ever before, but not of superior merit. We did not have an opportunity of examining them, either generally or minutely; but so far as our observation extended, there was less variety, and certainly not greater excellence, than on several previous occasions. There were many of the cart and other coarse breeds sent by our neighbors in Canada, and some of the finer bloods were also entered by them, each of which possessed considerable merit.

The Swine were not numerous, but most of those shown had good points. They were principally white, and mostly either Suffolk or Leicester. The former are nice and delicate in the best qualities and proportions of a pig, but the last are altogether too massive and unwieldy for any other purpose than to furnish *side pork* for the navy. We observed but two or three Berkshires, and one pen of that prolific, hardy, self sustaining little breed, the China, consisting of a dam, and her baker's dozen of young porklings.

The Poultry was not numerous, but some of it very attractive. We wished for a little leaven from the Boston spirit. We like to see the coops well stocked. Taste may be consulted, and profit, too, in these minor matters, equally as in larger.

Farm Implements were, perhaps, never so abundant, nor of better quality, on any previous exhibition. There were, however, but few articles differing materially from those previously shown. We think we may promise our farmer

a good mowing machine for their use another season, there being two on the ground better than any before used. There was a flax-breaking machine, recently invented, which breaks up the straw, when freed from the seed, and cleans out and separates quite perfectly, the shives, or woody portion from the long fibres. This, taken in connexion with the late discovery for altering the texture from the unyielding wiry touch to a soft, cottony mass, is undoubtedly destined, soon to bring the comparatively neglected interest of flax culture to its former elevated position among American products.

The Fruits, Vegetables, Flowers, Grain, Honey, and Dairy Products were not numerous, but many of them were of great excellence.

The Annual Speech, by Senator Douglas, was a good one; but though adroitly shaped, to give the most effective point to the speaker's peculiar views, without eliciting anything beyond the smallest amount of censure, it was, nevertheless, open to pointed criticism, which we have neither time nor room to make.

THE COTTON CROP.

THE following letter was addressed to the editor of the Mobile Tribune. It is written by a commission merchant of that city; a man in whose sound judgement and accurate estimates, the public have great confidence. If Mr. Henry's opinion proves correct, cotton must rise considerably. We have been of the opinion all along, the past summer, that it had fallen below a justifiable mark, considering the delicacy of the plant, and great precariousness of its crop. But, one extreme begets another:—

I left Mobile in July, and have since been travelling in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee, and have been carefully observing and inquiring diligently, respecting their cotton and other crops.

Before proceeding to give my views as to the extent of this cotton crop, (so far, made up by personal observation a good deal,) I will state my estimates for the crops of 1849 and 1850.

On the 31st of Aug. 1849, my estimate	
was a crop of	2,150,100
That crop turned out to be	2,097,000
On the 31st of Aug. last year, my estimate	
was a crop of	2,200,000 to 2,300,000
That crop by yesterday's New York	
statement, will make	
	2,350,000 to 2,375,000 bales.

Each of these estimates, you will perceive, is

very nearly correct, but the great falling off in the weight of the bales last year or for the crop of 1850, received in 1850, '51, would reduce the number of bales down towards 2,200,000 of equal weights of those of 1849.

By many, it is said nothing can be told as to the extent of the crop at this season of the year, and the above remarks I introduced for their satisfaction.

I return, then, to say, that the cotton crop of 1851 will not exceed 2,100,000 to 2,200,000 bales. It may fall very much below, but it cannot exceed those figures. Before I left Mobile, the reports were favorable, generally, for a full crop, though various complaints were coming in from some quarters. On my route I found portions of some plantations doing well, and other portions nothing. Some crops promise finely, others poorly. As a criterion for Alabama, I will state that plantations which late in July promised a heavy crop, have so completely shed their forms, blooms, and small bolls, that they cannot yield over a two-thirds crop. This relates to plantations where all the lands are fresh and strong. On those of a sandy and light soil the falling off is still greater. On plantations, where, before I left for Georgia, I supposed had 900 pounds to the acre, made beyond casualty, and which were covered with forms and blooms, I find on my return, not only all those blooms and forms have been shed, but many of the bolls that were then showing finely, and a frost on the first of October would do no serious injury to them. There are now no forms or blooms on the cotton, and it is too late for forms to come, for them then to bloom, and for the bloom to mature the bolls. You know forms, or squares, precede the blooms, and from the first appearance of the square, or form, some three weeks must elapse before it becomes the bloom; in two days, the bloom drops and reveals the boll, and in six or seven weeks, this boll, if it holds on, bursts open, and the cotton can be picked. This is the process. Well, all will see it is now too late, inevitably, for the wind to do all this.

Corn crops, in Eastern Alabama, are good, so of wheat, oats, &c. In Georgia, the corn crop is very poor, generally. Cotton on their old lands is very light, and on their fresh and better lands, much poorer than they promised to be a month ago.

Hurriedly as I have been compelled to write this, if it furnishes any information which may be desirable to the public, it is at your service

GEO. G. HENRY.

Cannonnugge, Macon Co., Sept. 1, 1851.

Foreign Agricultural News.

By the steamer *Europa*, we are in receipt of our foreign journals up to September 6th.

Cotton had advanced $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of a penny. *Provisions, Flour, and Grain* were a little lower.

What Americans Have Done the Past Season at the Crystal Palace and Elsewhere.—The following summing up is from the London correspondent of the *Journal of Commerce* :—

"So you see that the United States are of late looking up. We have carried away the palm in ship building. We have sent them a reaper to reap their grain fields. We have picked their locks which defied the world, and have given them in their stead, one which has hitherto proved unpickable. We have sent them pressing machines surpassing anything they have, and, as we believe, destined to supplant, perhaps, wholly, those now in use. We have sent them one of the great sources of their power, cotton of unapproached excellence of quality, and we can send it in quantity at least abundant enough. We have sent them, besides, wheat, bacon, and tobacco, of the prime quality—an article of food, the meat biscuit, which will be found indispensable to the success of many great modern enterprises; the utility of which they have not been slow to perceive. We have sent them, too, the Greek slave; and Colt's revolver, the greatest modern improvement in fire arms, and the most efficient of all known small arms. And we might add that we have fairly bored a great hole through the continent for the commerce of the world. I commend to your notice the handsome manner in which the *Times* calls attention to our opening the Nicaragua route:—

"I have called your attention to these matters not in a spirit of boasting, I hope, but as matters of information. We receive now on this side of the water so manly and heartily an acknowledgement of our success, that boasting would on our part be in most especial bad taste."

The Amende Honorable.—It will be recollected in our August number, that we took the *Times*, and sundry other English papers to task, for their ignorant and illiberal comments on the American exhibition at the Crystal Palace, particularly in that department which most concerns us—the agricultural. We thought it very ungentlemanly, to say the least of it, after inviting the whole world to come forward and make a display of its handicraft for England's benefit, to single out the Americans as a butt for ridicule, and captious, narrowminded, vulgar sneers. Yet, the moment our reapers, plows, &c., are tried, and found to be so much superior to what was anticipated, their tone changes, and the English press acknowledges its error in an honorable manner, and accords to America all, and perhaps even more than is justly her due.

The following is from the London *Times* :—

"Taking all things together, British and Americans have run a pretty fair tie through the trials of this

wonderful season. The spring, it must be confessed, opened ill for Brother Jonathan, and for a good while in the race, we kept well ahead. We had our great Exhibition—a real new 'smart' speculation, which did not turn out a failure, which exceeded everybody's hopes, and which brought about no revolutions at all. It was calculated that we should realise \$2,000,000. whereas we have got over \$2,100,000 at this very moment, with six good weeks before us still. On the other hand, it is beyond all denial that every practical success of the season belongs to the Americans. Their consignments showed poorly at first, but came out well upon trial. The reaping machine has carried conviction to the hearts of the British agriculturist. Their revolvers threaten to revolutionise military tactics as completely as the original discovery of gunpowder. Their yacht takes a class to itself. Of all the victories ever won, none has been so transcendent as that of the New-York schooner *America*. The accounts given of her performances suggests the inapproachable excellence attributed to Jupiter by the ancient poets, who describe the king of the gods as being not only supreme, but having none other next to him. 'What's first?'—'the *America*.' 'What's second?'—'Nothing.' Besides this, the Baltic, one of Collin's line of steamers, has 'made the fastest passage yet known across the Atlantic;' and, according to the American journals, has been purchased by British agents 'for the purpose of towing the Cunard vessels from one shore of the ocean to the other.' Finally, as if to crown the triumphs of the year, Americans have actually sailed through the isthmus connecting the two continents of the New World; and, while Englishmen have been douting and grudging, Yankees have stepped in and won the day.

"So we think, on the whole, that we may afford to shake hands and exchange congratulations, after which we must learn as much from each other as we can. As for yachts, we have no doubt that by next August every vessel of the Cowes squadron will be trimmed to the very image of the *America*; there is no doubt that our farmers will reap by machinery, and the revolver, we fear, is too attractive an embodiment of personal power to be overlooked by European mischief-makers."

Birds—How Can I Learn to Tame Them?—This is not so difficult as you imagine; nor is it fair to lay claim to any particular "art" in the matter—successful though we have been in nearly every effort made. The "law of kindness" is the talisman by which these things are effected; a law which, if it were brought into more general practice amongst ourselves, would make society at large infinitely better than it is. The spell can be worked at any time by the magic rod of "affection." If this be properly handled, we must all fall before it. Such is the extent of power. Remember, however, to use that power for good only, and never dare attempt to commit any breach of confidence. Your birds will then be tame, and will love you.—*Gardeners' Chronicle*.

Editors' Table.

TO OUR READERS.—It will be seen by reference to the first page of this number of our paper, that the *Agriculturist* is to cease at the end of the present volume. A similar publication, to be called *THE PLOW*, will take its place, edited by our assistant and veteran correspondent, Mr. Solon Robinson. The sole reason of our retiring from the arduous duties of editors is, that the business of our agricultural warehouse and manufactory demands our exclusive attention. But in ceasing to be editors, it is not our intention to relinquish intercourse with the agricultural public; on the contrary, we shall expect to be regular contributors to the *PLOW*, and thus through its columns, keep up that communication with our friends and the public, which has been so agreeable to us for the past ten years.

If circumstances favor, it is our intention to resuscitate the *American Agriculturist* at some future day, in an enlarged and highly improved form, to be conducted on the plan of the ablest European periodicals.

We recommend the *PLOW* to all the friends and subscribers of the *Agriculturist*; and as Mr. Robinson will give his whole time and talents to it, we have no doubt, with the assistance of a good corps of correspondents, he will make it one of the best and most useful agricultural papers in the United States. Although published at half the price of the *Agriculturist*, it will be of the same size, and contain the same number of pages, thus making it the cheapest publication in America. Mr. Robinson's great desire is, to benefit and instruct the millions; it is for this reason he has put the price of his periodical so low, that no one can object to it on that score. We hope his success in this publication will equal his deserts. If so, his subscription list will be reckoned by tens of thousands. We can assure the farmers of this country the more they read his paper, and practise its precepts, the richer, wiser, and happier they will become.

PRICE OF THE PLOW.—Fifty cents a year for single subscribers. A discount of 25 per cent. to clubs of eight or more, which will bring it to the extreme low price of 37½ cents for a year. Correspondents for *THE PLOW* will be furnished the paper *gratis*.

TO ADVERTISERS.—Mr. Saxton will issue you 30,000 copies of the January number of the *PLOW*; it will therefore be a great consideration to advertise in it. An equally large number for the next months will probably follow.

IMPORTATION OF DEVON CATTLE.—Mr. W. R. Sandford, of Orwell, Vt., has recently imported two Devon cows and a young bull calf, from the celebrated herd of Mr. George Turner, of England. They are fine animals, and will do credit to the improved stock of Vermont.

A NEW AND SPLENDID EDITION OF OUR CATALOGUE OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS has been recently issued, which the construction of the Post-Master Gen-

eral on the recent postage law, prohibits our sending through the mail without prepayment of postage. Those of our friends or correspondents who wish our catalogue sent through the mail hereafter, will please to enclose the postage for it, (six cents,) in letter stamps, as we fully sustain our share of the expense in its publication. We shall be happy to send it gratis, on request, through any private hands.

TIMES OF HOLDING ANNUAL SHOWS AND FAIRS.—The following indicate the times and places the annual shows and fairs of several State and County Agricultural Societies are to be held in various parts of the United States:—

Fair of the American Institute of New York.—

October 1st, the fair at Castle Garden will be open to visitors at 8 A. M.

October 6th. Special exhibition of dahlias and roses at Castle Garden.

October 7th. Testing of plows at White Plains. Committee will be on the ground at 10, A. M.

October 8th. Plowing and Spading Match at White Plains, in connection with the Westchester-County Agricultural Society. Committee will be on the ground at 10, A. M.

October 15th, 16th, and 17th. Cattle Show at Madison Cottage, corner of Fifth avenue and Twenty-third street. Entries may be made on the 13th, 14th, and 15th, on the ground, or at any time previous, by addressing A. Chandler, Corresponding Secretary, 351 Broadway.

October 16th. Anniversary address, in the evening, by Dr. Charles T. Jackson, of Boston, Massachusetts. Tickets gratis. To be had at the garden, or from any of the managers. Due notice of the hour and place will be published.

Pennsylvania State Agricultural Society, at Harrisburgh, October 29th, 30th, and 31st.

Georgia State Agricultural Society, at Macon, October 29th, 30th, and 31st.

Chenango-County (N. Y.) Agricultural Society, at Norwich, October 1st and 2d.

Westchester-County (N. Y.) Agricultural Society, at White Plains, October 7th, in connection with the Plowing Match of the American Institute.

Burlington-County (N. J.) Agricultural Society, at Monnt Holly, October 8th.

Philadelphia-County (Pa.) Agricultural Society, at Philadelphia, October 8th and 9th.

Clermont-County (Ohio) Agricultural Society, October 2d, 3d, and 4th.

Fairfield-County (Conn.) Agricultural Society, at Bridgeport, October 8th, 9th, and 10th.

In addition to the usual premiums for Plowing, P. T. Barnum, Esq., President of the society, with great liberality, offers additional premiums, amounting to \$200, the highest of which is \$50, open to plows and teams from every state in the Union. This will be a capital opportunity for the plow makers of the United States to show their hands.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

At Market.—1,800 Heeves, (southern and western,) 130 Cows and Calves, and 7,800 Sheep and Lambs.

Beef Cattle.—Prices do not vary materially from our last. Good qualities sold from \$6 to \$7.50 per hundred pounds. About 100 unsold.

Cows and Calves.—Prices from \$30 to \$40. Unsold, 10.
Sheep and Lambs.—Sales of Sheep at from \$1.50 to \$5. Lambs at from \$1.35 to \$4. 150 unsold. sept. 15

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—A sample of Flax Cotton, prepared by Mr. Claussen's process, from E. G. Roberts, 68 Pine street, N. Y., patentee for the United States.

THE AMERICAN MUCK BOOK, treating of the Nature, Properties, Sources, History, and Operations of all the Principal Fertilisers and Manures in Common Use, with Specific Directions for their Preservation and Application to the Soil and to Crops; drawn from Authentic Sources, Actual Experience, and Personal Observations, as combined with the Leading Principles of Practical and Scientific Agriculture. By D. J. Browne. Price \$1.
au C. M. SEXTON, Agricultural Book Publisher, 152 Fulton st., N. Y.

PRINCE'S LINNEAN BOTANIC GARDEN and Nurseries.—Wm. R. Prince & Co., Flushing, Long Island, offer their select and unrivalled collection of fruit and ornamental trees, shrubbery, roots, bulbous and other flowering plants, peonies, and greenhouse plants. The stock of standard and dwarf pears, and of all other fruit trees, is very extensive. 100,000 evergreen trees comprising every variety. 25,000 roses of the finest perpetual, daily and moss varieties. 100 splendid varieties of peonies, all the new and superior strawberries. 10,000 grape vines of the finest kinds. Descriptive catalogues with reduced prices will be sent to post-paid applicants. sept.

EAGLE PLOW.—No. 28.—The following extract from the letter of a gentleman who purchased one of these plows, fully explains its character. "In answer to your inquiry how I like the great breaking plow, I have to say it entirely exceeds my expectations, and even your own recommendation, which I then thought quite extravagant. I put on four stout yoke of oxen, and drove into the thickest patch of scrub oak roots upon my farm; not without some misgivings, that I should break the plow instead of the roots; but I have now turned over twenty acres as completely as though it had been nothing but stubble, and the plow is this day better than it was when it came from your store. I think it the cheapest and best plow for such heavy work ever invented."

These plows are for sale at our Agricultural Warehouse, No's. 189 and 191 Water st., New York. Price, plain, \$18—full rigged, with wheel, draft rod, and cutter, \$30.

A. B. ALLEN & Co.

GREENHOUSE PLANTS, VINES AND Roses. Parsons & Co. offer for sale every desirable variety of Greenhouse Plants, and many valuable novelties recently introduced from Europe. Attention is particularly directed to their fine stock of Camellia wilderit, the perfection of whose form is not attained by any other variety. The original stock, both of this and C. Abbey Wilder, is in their possession.

Growers of Grapes are invited to examine their Vineries, now in full fruit, and from which they can furnish good vines of about forty varieties, at

50 cents for those one year old.

75 " " two years old.

\$1.00 " " of extra size.

Their stock of saleable roses includes some thousands on their own roots of the Remoutant, Bourbon, China and Garden Roses, in their various sub-classes. Catalogues furnished gratis on application to Flushing, near N. Y.

PARSONS & Co.

DRAIN TILES.—The Staten-Island Drainage Tile Company are now prepared to supply agriculturists with the above-named tiles of the most approved patterns.

2-inch round pipes, one foot in length, per thousand, \$ 9

2 1/2 Do. Do. Do. 10

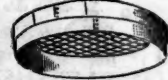
3 Do. Do. Do. 12

and pipe and horse-shoe tiles of all sizes, at corresponding prices.

The establishment is at Latourette's Point, Fresh Hills, near Richmond, Staten Island, and boats drawing four feet of water can enter the yard, and load from the kilns. Address

At Jyl A. B. ALLEN & Co. 189 and 191 Water st. N. Y.

COMMERCIAL GARDEN AND NURSERY of Parsons & Co., Flushing, near New York. The proprietors of this establishment offer for sale their usual assortment of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Vines, Roses, &c. Their stock of Apples and Pears is finer than any they have before offered. Also, Pears on Quince, of their own growing. The Ornamental Department contains the usual well-known varieties and all the best new Trees and Shrubs for Lawns and Arboreta, including the new Pines, Araucaria imbricata, and Cryptomeria japonica, with Cedar of Lebanon, at one to two dollars each, and Cedrus deodara of various sizes, at one dollar per foot. Catalogues furnished gratis on application by mail. o



RATS! RATS!! RATS!!!—E. Oliver's Patent Self-Setting Revolving Rat Trap is decidedly the best rat catcher in the United States. It has and will deceive the most cunning old rats that have been too wide awake for all other traps. The sagacity of the vermin will be of no avail with this ingenious trap. Manufactured at 25 Fulton street, up stairs, corner of Water street, N. Y.

P. S. Also, wove wire, for grain, seeds, and ore screens, sieves, riddles, &c. o

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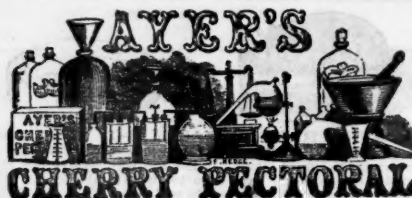
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